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Editor and Publisher

Dr. P. Sankar, IAS
Director of Information and Public Relations

Administrative Editor

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Joint Editor

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Associate Editors
S. Jayalalitha
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Assistant Editor
S. Kamala

Reporters

D.Periyar Socrates
J.Jayasimhan

Journal Assistant / Layout Artist
A.Mathan

Layout Artist
R.Balaji

Designed & Printed at :

Tamil Arasu Press
Directorate of Stationery & Printing premises,
110, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 002.
Tel : 28520407/ 28520408
Fax : 28520408
E-mail : tamilarasu@tn.gov.in

"I have ordered to present an award in the name of Avvaiyar to an eminent woman on International Women's day every year to encourage women"

- The Hon'ble Chief Minister
Selvi J Jayalalithaa in her message on the International women's day on 7.3.2012

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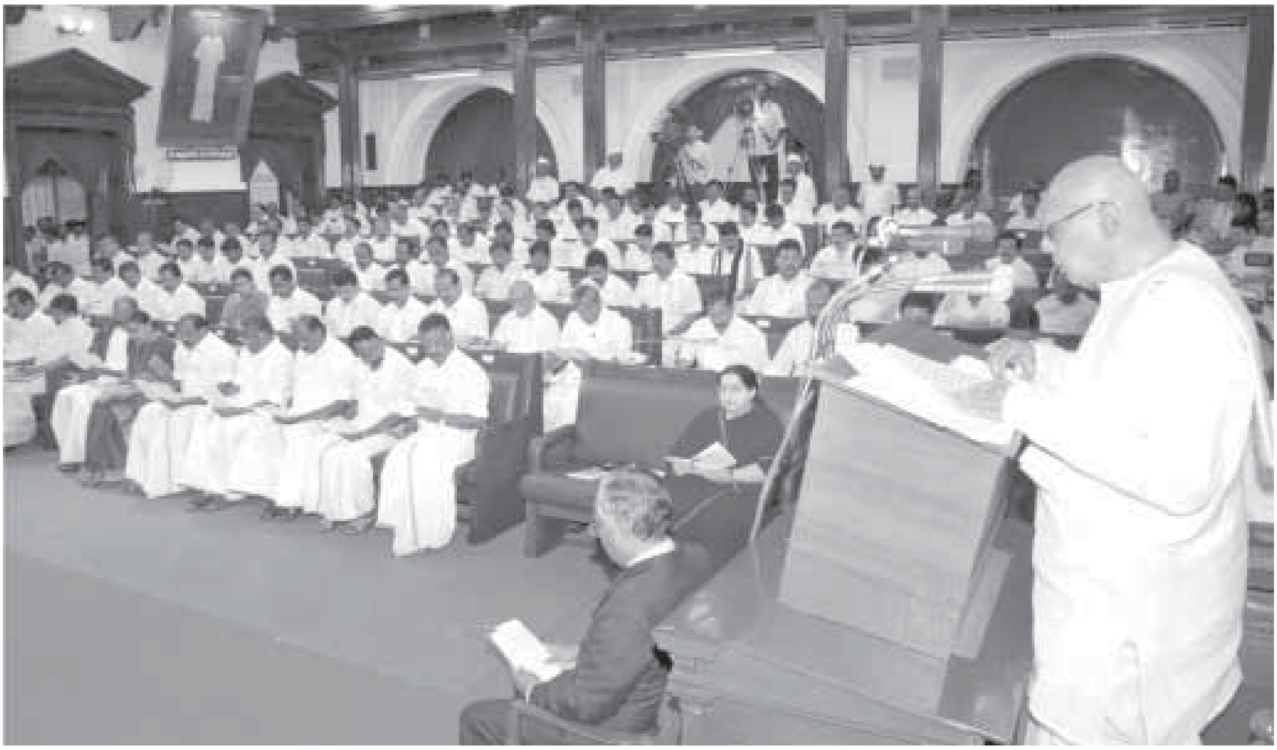
FIRST WRAPPER

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** takes the salute at the passing out parade of the Sub-Inspectors of Police at the Advanced Police Training Centre, Vandaloor on 15.2.2012

THIS GOVERNMENT IS LEAVING NO STONE UNTURNED TO MAKE TAMIL NADU THE *NUMERO UNO* STATE IN INDIA IN ALL FACETS OF SOCIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Address by His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu ***Dr. K. Rosaiah*** *at the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 30th January, 2012.*

Hon'ble Members of the Legislative Assembly,

Vanakkam.

It gives me immense pleasure to address the Assembly for the first time after taking over as the Governor of Tamil Nadu. At the outset I wish to convey my New Year and Pongal greetings to all members. The State has witnessed a stupendous performance of the new Government with the launching of a multitude of schemes and programmes aimed at the welfare and development of the State under the able leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Selvi **J Jayalalithaa**, who is always decisive in her deeds. The resolve and commitment of our Hon'ble Chief Minister in implementing the greater part of her electoral promises in such a short period, even in the face of a crippling financial crisis, is commendable. I am glad to note that these programmes have started showing results on the ground by improving the life of the common people.

2. Let me congratulate the people of Tamil Nadu for demonstrating their political wisdom and once again reposing their unshakable faith in the leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the recently held Local Body elections. The political maturity displayed by the electorate and the commitment shown by the Government in conducting this election in a most fair and peaceful manner will further strengthen the grass root democratic institutions. The vibrant functioning of this tier will nurture the young and committed elected representatives of these institutions to emerge as the leaders of the future. **This Government will take further steps to strengthen the Local Bodies based on the recommendations of the Fourth State Finance Commission and an Action Taken Report will be tabled in the Assembly in the next session.**

3. This Government is leaving no stone unturned to make Tamil Nadu the ***numero uno*** State in India in all facets of socio economic development. The strategy has been to revitalize the development process to create a conducive environment for higher growth and to implement welfare schemes to bring in the element of equity in economic wellbeing for the poor and downtrodden. As you know, this Government has substantially increased benefits under various welfare schemes and has provided rice, free of cost, for the first time in the country to ensure food and social security to the needy. Besides this, several flagship programmes like distribution of milch cows, sheep and goats to poor households, and mixies, grinders and fans to all families eligible to draw rice from the Public Distribution System and laptop computers to students have been launched. In fact, I am proud to state that this Government has been able to allocate an unprecedented additional outlay of around Rs.8,000 crores for these schemes inspite of the gloomy financial situation faced by the present Government while taking charge.

4. We are fully aware that governmental support and subsidies are no substitute for

an inclusive and sustainable growth process. In this regard, our Government is assiduously working to break the present impasse and stagnation in the Primary Sector, which continues to be the prime source of livelihood for the majority of the poor. In addition, the focused mission mode approach for improving urban infrastructure and strengthening the economic infrastructure to address the critical gaps in achieving higher growth will continue as a thrust area in our future strategy. Now that numerous welfare and developmental schemes have been launched and targets set, the focus of this Government will shift to effective implementation of the plethora of schemes in order to get better results and deliver better services to the people of the State and to exemplify transparent and efficient administration in the Country.

5. This Government is committed to maintaining cordial relationships with all our neighbouring States. Unfortunately, being a lower riparian State, Tamil Nadu has often been the victim of false and parochial campaigns launched with short sighted political interests and the persistent indifference of the Union Government. Our State has shown utmost restraint and ably handled the recent incidents relating to the Mullai Periyar Dam. The attempts on the part of the Kerala State to whip up mass fear and insecurity through false propaganda have been the primary cause of these incidents. Tamil Nadu is all for ensuring the safety of the dam and I earnestly appeal to the people of Kerala not to succumb to such malicious campaigns. I want to categorically state that this Government would never compromise on the rights of our State and the livelihood of our farmers and will defend our rights in all appropriate fora and courts of law. We also urge the Government of India to direct

"I want to categorically state that this Government would never compromise on the rights of our State and the livelihood of our farmers and will defend our rights in all appropriate fora and courts of law. We also urge the Government of India to direct the Government of Kerala to abide by the decision of the Supreme Court"

> **"From the day of assuming office, this Government has taken firm action against anti-social elements. Its resolve to show zero tolerance to law and order problems has helped the State to restore peace and tranquillity again after a gap of five years"**

the Government of Kerala to abide by the decision of the Supreme Court. As several inter-state river water disputes remain unresolved for many years, the time has come for a rethink on the present institutional framework. At this crucial juncture, we urge the Central Government that the proposed Dam Safety Bill, 2010, should ensure for entrusting the safety of dams to the Dam Safety Cell of the State owning the dam, instead of the State where it is situated.

6. The fire accident that occurred on the midnight of 15th January, 2012 in the Chepauk building complex has led to the death of a fireman and resulted in grievous injury to officers who gallantly fought the fire. I express my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family of the fireman and wish the injured officers a speedy recovery. I appreciate the Government for awarding these three officers with Anna Medal for Gallantry 2012. An expert committee has been constituted to study all the heritage buildings housing Government offices and assess the structural stability of such buildings to avert such disasters in future and ensure safety of the persons working in such premises.

7. From the day of assuming office, this Government has taken firm action against anti-social elements. Its resolve to show zero tolerance to law and order problems has helped the State to restore peace and tranquillity again after a gap of five years. The peaceful conduct of the Local Body elections has been acclaimed by all sections of Society and the media. Many festivals which were considered sensitive have passed off peacefully. The Anti Land Grabbing Cells established in every district by this Government have benefited innumerable poor innocent people who were coerced into selling their lands and their lands have been restored to them. I reassert this Government's continued

commitment to bringing such land grabbers exploiting the poor and gullible to justice.

8. The impact of the prolonged spell of global economic slowdown poses a real threat to fiscal stability and the Government's ability to spend more. Slow growth, persistently high inflation, depreciating rupee value and soaring interest rates have made it difficult for achieving our higher growth targets. As a result, investments are slowing down and the growth projections for 2011-2012 have been considerably scaled down at the national level. The negative impact of such economic slow down on the State's economy is inescapable. Notwithstanding these negativities, this Government is determined to ensure that spending by Government towards infrastructure and social security is not compromised in any manner. **For the ensuing Twelfth Plan, this Government plans an ambitious outlay of Rs.1,85,000 crores for plan schemes, more than double the size of the Eleventh Plan outlay of Rs.85,000 crores. This would put Tamil Nadu back on the path of accelerated growth.**

9. The continued attempts by the Union Government to push through legislations encroaching upon State powers and the adoption of a one-size-fits-all approach in designing schemes do not augur well for a healthy Centre-State relationship. Also, this Government urges the Union Government to adopt a flexible approach in formulating and implementing national schemes by fixing only the broad objectives and framework, while allowing the State Governments to have the freedom of designing the schemes to meet the State's specific needs by dovetailing Central funds with the State's resources providing better synergy and focusing on achieving intended goals. We would continue to impress upon the Union Government the need to adequately address the issues pointed out by our State regarding the implementation of Goods and Services Tax.

"This Government is taking all efforts for the promotion of the Tamil language and to preserve the cultural heritage of Tamils. We will continue to insist that the Union Government should recognise Tamil as one of the Official Languages of the Central Government"

10. This Government is taking all efforts for the promotion of the Tamil language and to preserve the cultural heritage of Tamils. We will continue to insist that the Union Government should recognise Tamil as one of the Official Languages of the Central Government. The pension for aged Tamil Scholars has been doubled from Rs.1,000/- to Rs.2,000/- per month by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. As already promised in the earlier Governor's address, Thirukkural and selected works of Bharathiyar and Bharathidasan are being translated into Mandarin and Arabic. This Government has uploaded 1,472 nationalised books of eminent Tamil Scholars in the website of the Tamil Virtual University to preserve and promote their literary works.

"This Government has taken all steps to mitigate the sufferings of the people due to the devastating impact of the cyclone 'Thane' and the prolonged spell of rain in November 2011"

11. Hon'ble Members may recall the announcement made on the preparation of the 'Vision 2025' document when this Government assumed charge last year. Now, I am glad to inform you that this Vision 2025 document will be released shortly by our Hon'ble Chief Minister, setting the tone for this Government's vision for the State and the plan of action towards achieving it. **A Bill will be introduced during the coming Budget Session for the formation of the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board, which will serve as an institutional framework for conceptualisation, prioritisation, sanction and speedy implementation of critical infrastructure projects. A separate Infrastructure Development Fund will be constituted by this Government to give a fillip to implementation of critical projects. In this direction, this Government will also come out with a new Public Private Partnership Policy to synergise the resources of the Government and the Private Sector in project implementation.**

12. This Government has taken all steps to mitigate the sufferings of the people due to the devastating impact of the cyclone 'Thane' and the prolonged spell of rain in November 2011. Unfortunately, during the recent North-East monsoon, 177 lives have been lost. I convey my condolences to these

families. The Hon'ble Chief Minister had ordered in November, 2011 a release of Rs.150 crores for immediate restoration of the damaged roads affected by the floods. As the damage caused by cyclone 'Thane' to the crops, huts, boats and other infrastructure in districts like Cuddalore and Villupuram was very extensive, the Hon'ble Chief Minister sanctioned an amount of Rs.850 crores to carry out relief measures, disburse compensation and restore the damaged infrastructure including power, drinking water and roads. I appreciate the State Government for using the early warning systems to initiate preventive measures and for taking timely action for providing relief. It may not be out of place to mention here that, due to sustained intensive relief work, normalcy could be restored to a very large extent in a month's time, whereas it would normally take several months to achieve such results.

13. As the livelihood of the farmers has been totally destroyed due to complete damage of perennial crops like cashew, jackfruit, coconut etc., now the Government is also focusing on permanent rehabilitation measures. As a special gesture, apart from extending immediate relief for crop loss, **the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered taking up of the replantation of perennial crops particularly cashew-nut crop with grafted seedlings under high density planting by meeting the entire cost of planting and maintenance for one year, and distribution of mini-kits with seeds and other essential inputs for taking up recultivation of annual crops in the affected fields. I am also glad to announce that this Government will take**

up the construction of one lakh concrete houses immediately at a cost of Rs.1,000 crores specially to replace the damaged huts in the cyclone affected districts like Cuddalore and Villupuram, to provide safe shelter to the affected families. A detailed memorandum spelling out the quantum of damage and requesting a special package of assistance for Rs.5,248 crores from the National Disaster Response Fund has been submitted to the Union

Government and I thank the Central Government for releasing Rs.500 crores as interim relief. The Central team had also visited the affected areas and I hope, the Government of India will respond positively to our Memorandum with adequate financial support.

14. Poverty and unemployment are the twin challenges to our Society. Decades of efforts in implementing several anti-poverty programmes have not yielded the desired results. Though there has been some reduction in rural poverty, the solution to urban poverty still remains elusive. Hence a paradigm shift is needed in our approach towards poverty reduction, incorporating innovative family based intervention. Our efforts to mitigate rural poverty through dovetailing of various schemes like the National Rural Livelihood Mission and Pudhu Vazhvu project with State sector schemes will continue. **Considering the high incidence of urban poverty, a comprehensive programme will be launched to deal with it in the forthcoming Budget as it did not get adequate attention in the past**.

"This Government is taking all efforts to usher in a Second Green Revolution for improving farm productivity and farmers income"

15. The issue of poverty is intricately linked to unemployment. This Government has already spelt out a two pronged strategy of imparting skills to make youth employable, while simultaneously focusing on entrepreneurship development to promote new ventures to generate employment. **To ensure the effectiveness of the Skill Development Mission, this Government has decided to integrate various skill building programmes implemented by different departments. We will bring in a centralized system of selecting and monitoring skill upgradation courses and institutions besides tracking the trainees till they get employed. The Tamil Nadu State Skill Development Mission Society under the guidance of the State Skill Development Mission will be the nodal agency for this purpose. This would ensure a common standard framework of programmes and fee structures, which the beneficiary departments can utilize without any overlapping or duplication of efforts or wastage of resources.**

16. Inclusive growth is possible only if growth in the Primary Sector is achieved. Keeping this in mind, this Government is taking all efforts to usher in a **Second Green Revolution** for improving farm productivity and farmers income. This requires sustained investment in the Farm Sector for better capital formation. Convergence of the National Agriculture Development Programme with State sponsored programmes for farm mechanisation, 100% subsidy to small and marginal farmers for adopting micro irrigation, strengthening the network of godowns and warehouses and focusing on the market infrastructure have given a new lease of life to the Farm Sector. **Due to the decision taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to release water from Mettur Dam early, the State has had a bountiful kuruvai crop. As a result, food grain production this year is likely to surpass the level of 100 lakh metric tonnes for the first time as against 75.95 lakh tonnes in 2010-2011.** This Government's flagship scheme of free distribution of milch cows, sheep and goats has received a remarkable response from the rural poor. During 2011-2012, about 1.12 lakh families would benefit from these schemes. This Government has simultaneously strengthened the extension services and the veterinary infrastructure to support growth in the Animal Husbandry Sector.

"All efforts must be taken to protect the traditional fishing rights of our Tamil Nadu fishermen in the Palk Bay area and ensure their safety and security. I also take this opportunity to reiterate this Government's clear resolve to regain Katccha Theevu so as to restore the lost rights of our fishermen"

17. In the Fisheries Sector also, many path breaking initiatives have been taken to promote deep sea fishing and improve infrastructure. I am sure all these initiatives will give a substantial boost to the Primary Sector. This Government is deeply concerned about the continuing attacks on and harassment of fishermen of Tamil Nadu by the Sri Lankan Navy. Despite our protests, such incidents are being repeated. I urge the Government of India to take up this issue strongly with Sri Lanka. All

efforts must be taken to protect the traditional fishing rights of our Tamil Nadu fishermen in the Palk Bay area and ensure their safety and security. I also take this opportunity to reiterate this Government's clear resolve to regain Katccha Theevu so as to restore the lost rights of our fishermen.

18. Tamil Nadu has the best functioning universal Public Distribution System in the country. This Government has further strengthened it by providing rice free of cost to all the rice card holders and by supplying pulses, edible oil and fortified atta at subsidised rates. The Union Government's Food Security Bill compromises universal access and deprives the State Government of the present allotment of food grains from the Central Pool. Hence, we will voice our opposition to the Food Security Bill in its present form as proposed by the Union Government. This Bill, primarily aimed at States where the Public Distribution system is non-functional, would have a definite negative impact on Tamil Nadu's Universal Public Distribution System. Hence, this Government insists that the Food Security Bill proposed by the Central Government needs drastic modifications, incorporating provisions for providing flexibility to the State Governments or for exempting those States which already have a well functioning system from the application of the Act.

"We will strengthen the infrastructure along the potential industrial corridors to promote the speedy growth of industrial clusters and achieve a balanced industrial development"

19. This Government is in the process of formulating a comprehensive new Industrial Policy and sector specific policies on the key and emerging sectors to promote industrial growth. We will strengthen the infrastructure along the potential industrial corridors to promote the speedy growth of industrial clusters and achieve a balanced industrial development. In the fast growing Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) sector also, Tamil Nadu needs to reinforce its dominant position in software exports by taking the lead as India's hardware hub. In this regard, **we will constitute an Expert Committee with representatives from Industry, to evaluate the potential and advise the Government on the way forward to attract more investments in hardware manufacturing.**

20. As assured by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, this Government is taking all efforts to revive Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) so as to solve the issue of effluents discharge into the Noyyal River. Based on the trial studies taken up to introduce an alternative Nano Filtration Technology to achieve zero liquid discharge in the Arulpuram CETP, **this Government has already sanctioned Rs.179 crores as interest free loan to restart these closed CETPs. In addition, Rs.75 crores has also been provided as loan to the Pollution Control Board for settling the compensation to the farmers in the Noyyal Ayacut pending determination of compensation by the Court.** The intervention of the Hon'ble Chief Minister in this regard has been well appreciated by all the concerned industrialists as well as farmers and has given them the confidence that this vexed problem has come to an end leading to a new lease of life for thousands of workers.

21. In spite of the best efforts of this Government, the power scenario in the State continues to be a matter of concern. The non-addition of generating capacity by the previous government and the lackadaisical response from the Centre to our request for additional allotment of power from the Central Pool have put the people of Tamil Nadu in a state of fix. In order to revive the sinking power utilities from the financial mess, this Government has provided Rs.2,600 crores as share capital support and Rs.955 crores as loan. This Government is making all out efforts to improve the energy availability and reduce the power shortage. Since this Government assumed charge, a capacity addition of 30 Megawatts under State Sector and a share of 113 Megawatts from Central Generating Stations have been made in the State in addition to 556 Megawatts of wind energy. New projects

"This Government is making all out efforts to improve the energy availability and reduce the power shortage. Since this Government assumed charge, a capacity addition of 30 Megawatts under State Sector and a share of 113 Megawatts from Central Generating Stations have been made in the State in addition to 556 Megawatts of wind energy"

with a total capacity of 4,704 Megawatts are to be commissioned in the next two years.

22. Quality road infrastructure is essential for ensuring balanced development. This Government will give priority to upgrading the quality of the core road network, creation of bypasses and widening and strengthening of State Highways, Major District Roads and Other District Roads to improve transportation efficiency. **A Land Pooling System will be followed in green field road projects to enhance the benefits to land owners. As already assured in the Budget 2011-2012, a Performance Based Maintenance Contract System will be put in place on a pilot basis in Coimbatore Circle shortly and it will be scaled up throughout the State in due course.**

23. This Government has notified the rules for implementing the Right To Education Act, and is committed to ensuring its implementation. Since this Government's assumption of office, schools in the State have been provided with additional infrastructure such as new classrooms and laboratory buildings. To address the problem of inadequacy of teaching staff, 33,681 posts of teachers along with 16,549 part-time teachers and 5,000 posts of non teaching staff have been sanctioned during the current year. To reduce the burden of students and to ease the process of learning, it has been decided to introduce the Trimester system upto 8th Standard in all schools from the academic year 2012-2013. I hope this Government's all out efforts will improve the quality of education, usher in universal access to secondary education, imparting higher levels of competency and skills to the students.

24. A number of initiatives have been taken by this Government to provide world class higher education and to make it accessible to all. Eleven Arts and Science colleges have been opened in a short span of time. New courses are being started in 34 Government colleges. The unviable Anna Universities of Technology which were created in various places by the previous Government have again been brought under a single entity, making Anna University the largest Technical University in the country. We have embarked on a

massive programme to scale up the computing skills of the students through distribution of free laptop computers. I am confident that this much acclaimed programme will add to the quality of human resources of our State. On the issue of Common Entrance Examination for professional courses like engineering and medicine, we will continue to oppose this move by the Centre as it will be detrimental to the interests of our students.

25. **A new Comprehensive Health Insurance Programme covering over 1.34 crore families in the State has been launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 11th January 2012. This scheme, with an enhanced coverage, will provide the much needed support to the poor for getting specialised treatment.** With the objective of further reducing Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric Care has been strengthened and 41 Neonatal Intensive Care Units have been established. In addition, this Government has enhanced the maternity benefit to poor mothers to Rs.12,000/-, the highest in the country. Tamil Nadu is undertaking a comprehensive drive to build awareness about the increasing threat of non-communicable diseases and also to screen and diagnose them at early stages. We expect that these measures will ensure that this Government achieves its objective of universal health care in the State effectively.

26. This Government has taken several initiatives for improving public transportation facilities. During 2011-2012, 3,000 new buses are being purchased at a total cost of Rs.539.83 crores. Further, for the first time ever, Rs.97.58 crores has been sanctioned for rebuilding 1,432 old buses, in which the engines and chassis are in good condition. I hope these new initiatives will improve the performance of the Transport Corporations and help them deliver better service to the people. Towards the goal of achieving an Integrated Multi-Modal Urban Transportation System in Chennai, I am

"Tamil Nadu is undertaking a comprehensive drive to build awareness about the increasing threat of non-communicable diseases and also to screen and diagnose them at early stages"

happy to note that the process of tendering to establish a **Monorail system** is progressing well.

27. **The District Innovation Fund will be used in all districts for making the Government's service delivery more citizen centric by dovetailing the efforts and contributions of the Private Sector.** The scheme of fast track patta transfer launched by this Government has yielded significant results. Patta transfers have gone up by 50% compared to the previous year. The Chief Minister's '**Uzhavar Paadhukaappu Thittam**' was launched on 10th September, 2011. This provides comprehensive social security to the families of farmers and agricultural labourers from birth to death.

28. This Government had announced in the last Budget a sum of Rs.5 crores for undertaking a mass campaign for clearing the accumulated plastic waste throughout the State and another Rs.50 crores for laying Black Topped roads using plastic waste on an experimental basis. It is heartening to note that about 146 kms of roads are being taken up using plastic waste at an estimated cost of Rs.50 crores. **We will come out with a detailed programme for laying such durable roads on a large scale, thereby arresting environmental degradation due to the accumulation of plastic waste.**

29. Tamil Nadu is endowed with diverse resources for attracting multi destination tourists. This Government will endeavour to provide world class services to domestic and international tourists. In this direction, the Inclusive Tourism Infrastructure Project funded by the Asian Development Bank will be launched shortly. The policy of promoting tourism in the State under Public Private Partnership (PPP) will gain momentum in the coming years.

30. Tamil Nadu, being a highly urbanised State, needs substantial improvement in planning and investment to improve urban infrastructure. The existing infrastructure is very inadequate and already under severe stress due to heavy migration. This is being addressed through the convergence of various programmes like Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project-III (TNUDP III). Chennai Corporation has been expanded by merging the adjoining suburban areas. Similarly, the boundaries of seven other Corporations and eight Municipalities have also undergone changes. This Government has also launched the Chennai Mega City Development Mission and Integrated Urban Development Mission to provide additional resources for implementing urban infrastructure projects. We will continue to focus on Solid Waste Management in an integrated manner besides improving other public amenities like roads, streets and parks. The preparation of master plans in the expanded municipal corporations and municipalities where such plans are not available will be carried out to ensure balanced and sustainable growth in our urban areas.

"This Government has also launched the Chennai Mega City Development Mission and Integrated Urban Development Mission to provide additional resources for implementing urban infrastructure projects"

31. This Government is adopting a habitation based approach for providing basic amenities and infrastructure facilities in the rural areas. As you are all aware, the Tamil Nadu Village Habitation Improvement (THAI) Scheme has been launched in the State. This scheme will cover all the habitations in five years. During the year 2011-2012, 2,020 village panchayats with 25,335 habitations are being covered wherein the basic amenities like roads, drinking water, street lights, etc., will be provided. Under the direction of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, a massive campaign was launched to revive all the Sanitary Complexes constructed in the past by refurbishing the facilities. In rural housing, besides IAY, the Chief Minister's

Solar Powered Green House Scheme to construct 60,000 new houses per year is also under progress. Through these schemes, this Government is confident of providing adequate basic amenities and safe housing to all the rural poor.

32. This Government has taken several pioneering initiatives for the welfare of the weaker sections of our Society – women, children, aged, destitute and differently abled persons. The path breaking move to enhance the assistance and to distribute gold coins to make *Thali* for the marriage of poor girls; infusing life back into the Girl Child Protection Scheme and the Cradle Baby Scheme; doubling the Social Security Pension taking it to the highest level in the country; opening of Integrated Homes for orphans and the aged in all districts stand testimony to the care and compassion shown by our Hon'ble Chief Minister towards the weak and vulnerable. As never done before in the history of any State, sanction has been accorded for bringing 5 lakh new beneficiaries under the social security net and the distribution is also being streamlined through direct transfer to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries, thereby plugging the leakages. I am sure that these efforts will ensure that our State has the best and most comprehensive Social Security Support System for the disadvantaged and marginalised.

"This Government has taken several pioneering initiatives for the welfare of the weaker sections of our Society – women, children, aged, destitute and differently abled persons"

33. Several programmes are being implemented for the welfare of the socially and economically backward classes like Adi-Dravidars, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified communities and the Tribals. The historic efforts of the Hon'ble Chief Minister to establish social justice by enacting an Act 45 of 1994 and getting it included in the 9th Schedule of the Constitution in 1994 by a Constitutional Amendment passed by both Houses of Parliament, and issuance of a Government Order in the year 2011 to protect the reservation for the backward

and most backward classes will be cherished by all. A substantial increase has been given to the feeding charges for students belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged groups staying in Government hostels. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also took a characteristically bold decision to construct own buildings for all the hostels which are at present housed in rented premises. The welfare of the poor and downtrodden will occupy continued primacy in the agenda of this Government.

34. This Government is fully aware of the immense responsibility placed on its shoulders by the people of Tamil Nadu, through their sweeping mandate in the Assembly election. The yearning of the people for a changeover from a legacy of corruption and inefficiency to one with transparency and efficiency has been further demonstrated in the Local Body elections. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister has, in this short period, amply demonstrated that the faith the people of Tamil Nadu have in her and her Government stand vindicated. Against all odds – a precarious fiscal situation, a gloomy economic environment and an unhelpful Union Government this Government will continue to march on its way towards the goal of uplifting the State and its people. In this, I seek co operation from all of you and the people of Tamil Nadu in our efforts to put the State back on the road to prosperity. With the Hon'ble Chief Minister at the helm, I have no doubt that these efforts will definitely fructify and Tamil Nadu will usher in a new era of transparency, efficiency and prosperity.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also took a characteristically bold decision to construct own buildings for all the hostels which are at present housed in rented premises. The welfare of the poor and downtrodden will occupy continued primacy in the agenda of this Government.

Nanri

Vanakkam

Jai Hind

THE UNION GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT OR BE SEEN TO ATTEMPT ENCROACHING INTO THE DOMAINS OF THE STATES

Text of the D.O. letter addressed to **Dr. Manmohan Singh,** the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 20.12.2011.

" The Union Government has sent the Draft National Food Security Bill, 2011, and has invited the views of the State on the same. Now, I have come to know that the proposed Bill has already been approved by the Cabinet and is likely to be introduced in Parliament shortly. I have gone through the provisions of the Bill which contemplates securing food security through Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and nutritional support to vulnerable sections of the public like pregnant women, lactating mothers and children from 6 months to 14 years of age. The Bill also aims to address the issues of malnutrition, starvation or condition akin to starvation. Under the Targeted Public Distribution System, the Bill advocates the provision of food entitlement at 7 kg. per person per month and 3 kg. per person per month to persons belonging to Priority House Holds (PHH) and General House Holds (GHH) respectively at different subsidized rates.

As you are aware, my Government has been successfully implementing the Universal Public Distribution System for the last several years. Through this Universal Public Distribution System, the Government has been able to address the issue of food security for all without exception. In addition, my Government has ordered the supply of rice free of cost to all under the Universal Public Distribution System. This has been well received by the public. Apart from rice, wheat and sugar, special PDS commodities like Toor dhall, Urid dhall, fortified Palmolein and fortified Atta are also supplied to the public at heavily subsidized prices. Another unique feature of the

Universal Public Distribution System in my State is that no private individuals are permitted to run fair price shops. Only the Co-operative Societies and the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, apart from a few Women Self Help Groups, are permitted to run the fair price shops which number 32,977. The annual food subsidy for the State is Rs.5000 crores. There is a strong administrative monitoring, vigilance and grievance redressal mechanism operating in the State in respect of PDS.

In contrast, the proposed Central Bill on food security is replete with confusion and inaccuracy. For instance, the proposed classification of target groups into PHH and GHH for the purpose of delivery of food entitlements will surely invite sharp criticism and furious opposition from everybody concerned. The very basis of such classification is unscientific and unacceptable. Similarly, no reason has been adduced for restricting the coverage under TPDS to 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population under the proposed Central Bill. Like the BPL norms proposed by the Union Planning Commission, the categorization of households and arbitrary restriction of coverage as contained in the Central Bill will lead to controversy and make a mockery of providing food security. The most significant point is that forced implementation of TPDS as contemplated under the Central Bill will entail an additional financial burden of about Rs.1800 crores per annum with no statutory commitment forthcoming from the Government of India.

In view of the foregoing reasons, I would like to register my strong opposition to the Draft National Food Security Bill, 2011. On the contrary, I request the Union Government to not only continue to supply food grains to Tamil Nadu at the existing price and along the same pattern but also to restore the monthly allotment of kerosene. In a federal structure like ours where the States are in close and direct contact with the people, the choice of designing and implementing popular welfare schemes is best left to the States. The Union Government should not attempt or be seen to attempt encroaching into the domains of the States.

I therefore, request that Tamil Nadu may be exempted from the purview of the Food Security Bill and my views as expressed above may be taken on record while deciding the matter."

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The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** inaugurated the Pilloor-2 dedicated water supply scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 113.74 lakh and solid waste management transfer station in coimbatore corporation at an estimate of Rs.2.50 crore through video conferencing at Secretariat, Chennai on 24.1.2012.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** handed over 34 new vehicles bought at a cost of Rs.2,29,74,000/- to Information and Public Relations Department at Secretariat, Chennai on 3.3.2012. The Hon'ble Minister for Information and Special Programmes Implementation Thiru. K.T.Rajenthrabhalaji, Secretary to Government, Tamil Development, Religious Endowments and Information department Dr.M.Rajaram, IAS and the Director of Information and Public Relations Dr. P.Sankar, IAS were present during the occasion.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** Chaired the review meeting on the relief work undertaken after the cyclone 'Thane', at Secretariat, Chennai on 3.1.2012. The cyclone 'Thane' crossed the coastal district of cuddalore on 30.12.2011. The Hon'ble Chief Minister had convened a meeting on the same day to assess the damages and had released a sum of Rs.150 crore immediately to carryout the relief works.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** inaugurated the air conditioned shooting floor renovated at a cost of Rs. 1.43 crore at the MGR Government Film and Television Training Institute through video conferencing and also inaugurated the photo gallery renovated at a cost of Rs. 14 lakh at Secretariat, Chennai on 6.1.2012

Do not worry over losses - Your Government is here to offer all the required help

- The Hon'ble Chief Minister consoles victims of 'Thane' cyclone

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa made an aerial survey of the cyclone 'Thane' affected areas of Cuddalore district on 4.1.2012 and distributed relief to the victims at a simple function held at Subbarayalu Thirumanamandapam, Cuddalore.

While addressing the gathering, the Hon'ble Chief Minister said the government has allocated a sum of Rs.850 crores to carry out the relief and rehabilitation measures. She said the victims need not worry over the losses, since the government elected by them is there to take care of all their needs and a bright future awaits them.

Before leaving Cuddalore for Chennai, the Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the Hon'ble ministers to be present in the district to supervise the relief operations.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** handed over a cheque for Rs.20 lakh on behalf of the State Government to the Tamil Nadu Federation of Women Lawyers towards the expenses for conducting National Conference of the All India Federation of Women Lawyers, at Secretariat, Chennai on 2.1.2012.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** inaugurated the new buildings of the Government Hospitals constructed at a cost of Rs.49.85 crores and Primary Health Centres constructed at a cost of Rs.7,71,40,000 through Video Conferencing at Secretariat, Chennai on 24.1.2012.

TAMIL NADU HAS EMERGED AS THE DESTINATION OF CHOICE FOR INVESTORS

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** at the CONNECT 2011 held at Convention Centre, Nandambakkam, Chennai on 21.12.2011

Good Afternoon to you all.

First of all I must thank Mr. S. Ramadorai for his most inspiring and encouraging address. He has told us all very clearly that Tamil Nadu has the potential to become a global leader in many sectors and that Chennai has all the attributes needed to become a global city and he has also laid out a road map for us to follow to achieve these goals. I request him to please send us a copy of his speech so that we may implement all his brilliant suggestions.

I still remember the first edition of CONNECT launched in the year 2001 which I inaugurated. I participated in this event again in

2002, and yet again in 2005. This underlines the importance that my Government accords to this event and to the promotion of the Information Technology industry in Tamil Nadu.

I am glad to participate once again in this annual event jointly launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu and CII. CONNECT is one of the Flagship events, of the Government of Tamil Nadu and the CII. It is a premier annual Conference cum Exposition on Information and Communication Technology that has been attracting world-wide participation.

I am delighted to know that the theme of this 2011 edition of CONNECT is "Towards Innovation and Emerging Entrepreneurship – Tamil Nadu leads the way". I congratulate the organizers for choosing this theme, which is very relevant in the present context.

Technological revolutions sometimes bring unexpected opportunities for countries. India, a

relative laggard among developing countries in terms of economic growth, seems to have found such an opportunity in the IT revolution as an increasingly favoured location for customized software development. India's success in software has led to speculation about whether other developing countries can emulate its example, as well as whether this constitutes a competitive challenge to software Industries in the developed world.

Today, the whole world lauds the dazzling performance of India in Information Technology. IT provides the unique opportunity to India to overcome the Nation's historical disabilities, created by its colonial legacy in the past. IT is now enabling us to catch up with the developed world. It is considered as a great leveller that can bridge the "North-South Divide" in this highly polarized world of "haves and have-nots".

It is now commonplace to say that the 21st Century will be the "Knowledge Century". Peter F.Drucker, the famous Management Guru said: "Today knowledge has power. Knowledge controls access to opportunity and advancement". Throughout the developed world, we have moved from "man power" to "mind power." We have moved from the use of physical muscle to the use of mental muscle. Knowledge becomes power when we put it to use. Intellectual capital is the most valuable of all factors of production. What exactly do we mean when we say this? I believe that this proposition implies that it is not military power or economic power that will in fact determine a Nation's place in the world now in the making, but its "brain power". Brain power should of course be reflected in a country's economic competitiveness. IT prowess is synonymous with the brain power that places India in the vanguard position. Truly, the 21st century belongs to us.

Before I proceed with the rest of my speech, I would first like to commend the role played by our IT industry and our IT professionals in bringing India on to the world map, and being counted as one of the knowledge powers of the world. This is not an achievement, which came about overnight. This is the result of years of investment enterprise and hard work – by individuals, by academic institutions, and by IT enterprises.

The rise of India as an economic power, particularly as an IT power, figures today in the discourse of all seminars, conferences and writings, all over the world. Whereas, the economic development of India has been multifaceted the role of IT in breaking traditional mindsets about India's capabilities; our ability to make world-class products; and to compete on an equal footing is truly remarkable and it is probably the single biggest reason for India today occupying so much "Mind Space" among the investment community in the world. Our Indian IT enterprises have risen to the challenge and proved that they are indeed globally competitive. Our share of world exports has gone up because of IT. India has to be more economically engaged with the world.

The service sector has been the most dynamic sector of the Indian economy. Not only has it been growing much faster than the other sectors, but it has enabled the Indian economy to be less dependent on the vagaries of the monsoon. It has also been one of the most important contributors to the growth of our trade.

According to A.T. Kearney's Global Services Location Index 2011, India is ranked First among 50 nations with an overall score of 7.01; followed by China with a score of 6.49. According to A.T. Kearney, India has emerged as the Leader both in terms of "Financial attractiveness" as well as "People's skills and availability."

Today, India has emerged as the fastest growing and one of the largest IT markets in the Asia-Pacific according to an IDC study. While China excels in manufacturing, India is far ahead of China in the field of IT. A study report of McKinsey on China's software outsourcing sector revealed that it will be many years before China poses a threat to its continental rival India in this arena. This commendable performance of IT has given all of us a sense of pride in the international forums.

The Indian information technology (IT) industry has played a key role in putting India on the global map. Thanks to the success of the IT industry, India is now a power to reckon with.

Over the past few years, the Indian information technology (IT) and IT enabled Services (ITeS) industry has been on a steady growth trajectory. The IT industry alone has played a pivotal role in placing India on the world map, as a major, knowledge-based economy and outsourcing hub. The major sub-segment that entails Business Process Outsourcing (BPO), is re-inventing itself and experiencing a paradigm shift from being a volume-oriented proposition to a value-oriented proposition by expanding its scope of services and providing substantial high-end solutions in the areas of Data Analytics, Legal Process Outsourcing, etc.

The IT-BPO sector in India had aggregated revenues of 88.1 billion US Dollars in FY2011, generating direct employment for over 2.5 million people, as the industry continued its journey on the core themes identified for the next decade – Diversification, Transformation, Innovation and Inclusion. The

"Abundant availability of skilled manpower at relatively lower wage costs coupled with harmonious and peaceful industrial relations, confer distinct advantages on Tamil Nadu making the State the most preferred investment destination"

share of the IT-BPO industry in the total Indian exports (merchandise plus services) increased from less than 4% in 1998 to 26% in 2011.

According to a report prepared by McKinsey for NASSCOM, called 'Perspective 2020: Transform Business, Transform India' released in May 2009, the exports component of the Indian industry is expected to reach 175 billion US Dollars in revenue by 2020. The domestic component will contribute 50 billion US Dollars in revenue by 2020. Together, the export and domestic markets are likely to bring in 225 billion US Dollars in revenue, as new opportunities emerge in areas such as, public sector and healthcare, and as geographies including Brazil, Russia, China and Japan opt for greater outsourcing.

Today, the IT-BPO sector has become one of the most significant growth catalysts for the Indian economy. In addition to fuelling India's economy, this industry is also positively influencing the lives of its people through an active direct and indirect contribution to various socio-economic parameters such as employment, standard of living, and diversity among others.

To sum up, the Indian Information Technology Sector continues to be one of the sunshine sectors of the Indian economy showing rapid growth and promise.

Within India, Tamil Nadu has carved out a pride of place. Not long ago, the popular perception of Chennai was that it is a coffee loving conservative city. From this perception, Chennai has now transformed itself into the San Jose of India with state-of-the-art IT parks. Chennai has indeed come a long way. With one new company coming up every week, Chennai is all set to become the country's IT capital. Many major players have already set up shop here and many more are willing to join the bandwagon.

Tamil Nadu has a rich capital of human resource endowments capable of meeting the needs of modern industry. The State ranks primary with an annual turnout of nearly 1,92,000 engineering graduates and an equal number of trained polytechnic students offering immense scope for the establishment of knowledge based industries and services. Tamil Nadu is the most

> **"My Government is committed to providing an investor-friendly Industrial Policy framework to provide a healthy and productive environment"**

"technically powerful knowledge State" in the country, especially after Anna University has become the world's largest technical university, comprising about 500 engineering colleges.

I understand that Anna University produced about 25 per cent of India's engineers and nearly 10 per cent of the world's engineering graduates. Abundant availability of skilled manpower at relatively lower wage costs coupled with harmonious and peaceful industrial relations, confer distinct advantages on Tamil Nadu making the State the most preferred investment destination.

IT has powered the transformation of Tamil Nadu into a modern economy, clearly making it India's eastern gateway to the World, not just South Asia. Tamil Nadu has emerged very strong as a global leader in some specific verticals of the ITES sector. These are Banking, Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI), Health Systems Management, Computer Aided Designing (CAD) and Computer Aided Engineering (CAE). In 2010-11, Software exports from STPI units in Tamil Nadu have touched 42,100 crore rupees. If we include exports from IT SEZ units, it is estimated to be above 50,000 crore rupees. Though the IT revolution started some time ago in the country, it was in Chennai that the IT and BPO sectors set the stage for yet another revolution that accelerates self-sustenance in rural India. I am glad that apart from Chennai, other Tier II cities in Tamil Nadu have significantly improved their export performance.

Within our Software exports, the focus is primarily on the High-end of the value-addition spectrum. About 49% of Tamil Nadu's IT exports constitute System and Application software,

while BPO constitutes only 12%. This is a clear reflection of the climb-up in value-chain and maturity achieved by the IT industry in Tamil Nadu. This is the saga of Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu and Chennai have become the destination of choice for IT investments. At present, Tamil Nadu has over 1800 software & ITES exporters, including over 210 foreign wholly owned subsidiaries and MNC companies in Software development. The World Bank's only back-office outside Washington is in Chennai. Apart from this, Chennai is the hub for international financial institutions, like Stanchart, Citibank, ABN Amro Bank, etc., who all have very large scale operations in Chennai catering to the Asia-Pacific region.

Tamil Nadu offers a reliable communication infrastructure, which is considered as the back-bone of the IT industry. Chennai is the landing point for two submarine cables that link Chennai with the rest of the World. The total bandwidth available is over 13.52 terabits per second, the largest any Indian city has at present.

Tamil Nadu has been rated as a "Leader" State in e-readiness and e-governance. Information Technology today is recognized as an effective tool for catalyzing the activities in efficient governance and in developing human resource. The ubiquitous mouse has a special place in the Indian psyche. It is revered as the vehicle of Lord Ganesha, the remover of all obstacles. Today, in the arena of Governance, its Pentium powered avatar reigns supreme in the hands of an increasingly literate janata. As the era of Digital Economy evolves the concept of good Governance assumes greater significance.

Today, Tamil Nadu has emerged as the destination of choice for investors. Several independent studies have rated the investment climate in the State highly. It is therefore no surprise that Tamil Nadu has become a major recipient of foreign investments. Tamil Nadu remains as one of the top three destinations in attracting FDI in India. It is, therefore, encouraging to note that investors are displaying their growing faith in the immediate and medium term prospects of Tamil Nadu not to mention the

robust outlook for the long term. It will be the endeavour of the State Government to sustain and stabilize this environment of optimism. On this occasion, I invite you to have faith in Tamil Nadu. The State Government is committed to renewing the people's faith in good governance and in a socially just and equitable process of development.

As Mr. Orison Swett Marden said: "Success is not measured by what you accomplish, but by the opposition, you have encountered and the courage with which you have maintained the struggle against overwhelming odds." I have a vision or a dream to make Tamil Nadu numero uno in terms of all round development. Dreams come true when you act to turn them into realities. A goal properly set is halfway reached. Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality. As Mr. Tommy Lasorda said: "The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a person's determination."

To achieve this dream, my Government proposes to bring out a New Information Technology & ITES Policy that will engender many avant-garde features. This will catapult Tamil Nadu to the numero uno position. **My Government is committed to providing an investor-friendly Industrial Policy framework to provide a healthy and productive environment.**

I invite investors to Tamil Nadu - the land of great opportunity endowed with immense potential and reiterate the commitment of my Government to establishing a strong and vibrant Tamil Nadu as a new growth model in India.

In Tamil Nadu, the opportunities are immense. This Government believes in being pro-active and being an enabler. We would like to be a State with the right attitude towards investors. Tamil Nadu is a State that delivers and we need partners who can see growth both in the old and the new economy and participate in the generation and creation of wealth.

Once again, I congratulate the organizers of Connect 2011.

Thank You.

ORDER THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE OFFICE MEMORANDUM OF THE NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY NO.5-72/2011 MIT. DATED 12.12.2011

Text of the D.O. letter addressed to **Dr. Manmohan Singh,** the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 20.12.2011.

" I am shocked to note that the National Diaster Management Authority (NDMA) under your Chairmanship has constituted a Team of Experts on 12.12.2011 to formulate a Contingency Response Plan for the Mullai Periyar Dam and downstream areas with a view to mainly developing the submergence / inundation models for various possible scenarios like earthquakes, floods and / or combination thereof. This is nothing but succuming to the subterfuge of the Government of Kerala and to present a fait accompli to the Supreme Court of India and the Empowered Committee constituted by it.

As you are aware, the Supreme Court of India had already decided in February, 2006 that the Mullai Periyar Dam is safe after looking into the reports of various experts and permitted the Government of Tamil Nadu to raise the water level to 142 feet initially. The Empowered Committee constituted by the Supreme Court of India had conducted various tests and is in the process of conducting various other tests and it is expected to submit its report to the Supreme Court in February, 2012. That being the case the Government of Kerala, in order to circumvent the legal process, had approached the National Disaster Management Authority to formulate a Contingency Response Plan in case of a disaster which is a figment of imagination. The objective of the Government of Kerala appears to be a calculated attempt to pressure the Empowered Committee to declare the Dam unsafe.

I would also like to bring to your notice that Prof. D.K.Paul, Earthquake Engineering Department, IIT., Rourkee was proposed as a witness by the Government of Kerala in the pending Suit. The Supreme Court of India had not taken cognizance of Kerala's plea to include him as a witness. Now, the NDMA has included him to represent the Earthquake Engineering Department, IIT., Roorkee in the Team of Experts. There is every possibility that his untested views will influence the team of experts of NDMA.

I am of the view that in as much as the matter is pending in the Supreme Court and the Empowered Committee constituted by the Supreme Court is looking into various aspects, including the safety of the dam, the constitution of a Team of Experts by the NDMA to prepare a Contingency Response Plan for the Mullai Periyar Dam and downstream areas is not warranted at this stage.

May, I therefore, request you to order the withdrawal of the Office Memorandum of the National Disaster Management Authority No.5-72/2011 Mit. dated 12th December, 2011 forthwith?"

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NEW MINISTERS SWORN - IN

His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu **Dr. K. Rosaiah** administered the Oath of office to the newly appointed ministers in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** at Raj Bhavan, Chennai on 27.1.2012

Thiru N.R. SIVAPATHY

Hon'ble Minister for School Education and Sports & Youth Welfare

Thiru MUKKUR N. SUBRAMANIAN

Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology

A PAGEANTRY OF COLOURFUL FLOATS MARK THE REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS

The 63rd Republic Day was celebrated in Chennai on 26.1.2012 with the unfurling of the National Flag, ceremonial March past, cultural programmes and the pageantry of floats.

His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu Dr.K. Rosaiah, hoisted the National Flag near the Gandhi statue on the Marina in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa and other dignitaries.

The ceremonial march past on the occasion had 44 contingents including those of the Army, Navy, Air Foce, (CISF, RPF, Mounted Police, Commando Force, Fire and Rescue Services, Ex-serviceman, NCC and Bharat Scouts.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa presented the Anna Medal for Gallantry to five persons. The Government has enhanced the prize amount for the Medal from Rs.25,000 to Rs. 1 lakh, from this year. Thiru S. Ravichandran received the Medal on behalf of his wife, N. Priya, Divisional Fire Officer of the Chennai Central Fire Division, Selvi Sharmila on behalf of her father K. Anbalagan, Leading Fireman of the Teynampet Fire Station, Tmt. Kripavathi on behalf of her husband Thiru R. Murugan,

Station Fire Officer of Ashok Nagar Fire Station, Thiru S.Harish Kumar and S. Ravi of Thiruppur.

The Kottai Ameer Communal Harmony Award was presented to Dr.J. Rajamohamad of Pudukkottai district. The award consists of a Medal, a cheque for Rs.25,000 and a certificate.

The Gandhi Adigal Police Medals were presented to Thiru S. Jayakumar, Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police, Prohibition Enforcement (PEW), Chennai, Thiru S.R. Senthilkumar, Additional Superintendent of Police (incharge) (PEW) Krishnagiri District, Thiru D. Sampath Kumar, Special Sub-Inspector (PEW) Thoppur Police Station, Dharmapuri District and Thiru P. Chinnamadan, Head Constable (PEW) Dharmapuri District for their outstanding work in curbing illicit liquor. The award carried a Medal and a cash prize of Rs.20,000/-.

The cultural programmes presented by the students of Jaigopal Garodia Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Chennai, Saidapet Girls Higher Secondary School, Children's Garden Higher Secondary School, GRT Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Gurusree Shanthi Vijay Jain College, Ethiraj College and Bharathi College enthralled the audience.

The folk dances arranged by the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur viz. Songi Mukhawate of Maharashtra, Gangaur of Madhya Pradesh, Thappattagullu of Andhra Pradesh and Kaisilambattam of Tamil Nadu arranged by the Information and Public Relations Department entertained the gathering.

19 Departments took part in the pageantry of floats depicting various schemes of the Government. The float designed by the Department of Information and Public Relations won the first prize. The float of the Police Department won the second prize and the Horticulture and Fisheries Departments won the third prize. His Excellency the Governor gave away the prizes at a reception hosted by him at Raj Bhavan, later in the evening. ●

THE PRESENT PROPOSAL TO DO AWAY WITH GRP IS ILL-CONCEIVED

Text of the D.O. letter addressed to **Dr. Manmohan Singh,** the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 28.2.2012.

"I would like to draw your attention to the letter of the Chairman, Railway Board and Ex-officio Principal Secretary, Ministry of Railways, Government of India, addressed to the Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu, wherein he has outlined a proposal to (i) empower the Railway Protection Force to deal with passenger related offences in the passenger area, (ii) declare RPF posts (units) as Police Stations, (iii) empower RPF Officers to exercise the powers of an Officer in charge of a Police Station and (iv) move from a three tier railway security system (RPF, GRP and District Police) to a two tier security system (RPF and District Police) and proposed to amend RPF Act, 1957, accordingly.

As a justification for this move, it has been stated that long distance trains traverse many States and lack of co-ordination between GRPs (Government Railway Police of different States) underlines the need for a dedicated agency to prevent and detect crimes in passenger areas. It is further claimed that the experience of RPF in dealing with offences under the Railway Police (Unlawful Possession) Act and Railways Act and the availability of basic infrastructure in RPF posts in major Railway Stations will render RPF capable of tackling this job. The Chairman, Railway Board, has further sought to draw a parallel with the powers extended to CBI under the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act.

The implications of this proposal are that the Central Government will start Police Stations in Railway Stations and its RPF staff will take over the investigation of thefts and other offences relating to passengers on platforms and in trains.

The present proposal to do away with GRP is ill-conceived. The GRP serves as the link between RPF and District Police. In the absence of this wing, co-ordination between RPF and the State Police will suffer. Further, GRP deals with not only cases of theft but also incidents such as death on railway tracks. Transferring these cases to the District Police will place a heavy burden on the District Police. Further, the States will lose the funding now given for GRP, while having to continue performing law and order duties relating to the railways.

If this trend of making Railway Stations and trains the exclusive domain of RPF continues, a time may come when the District Police may be barred from entering Railway Stations for making the arrest of accused wanted in local police cases.

In short, the Railway Stations will become islands of Central Government Authority within the territorial jurisdiction of the States.

I would also like to point out here that the proposed amendment to the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957, is yet another blatant attempt by the Government of India to usurp the powers of the States, as this is not in consonance with Article 246 of the Constitution of India. "Public Order" and "Police" are State subjects and proposing an amendment with regard to these subjects under Entry 22, 30, and 93 of the Union List with Entry 2 of the Concurrent List in Schedule VII of the Constitution is clearly an attempt to encroach upon the powers of the States and will be lethal to the federal structure of the Nation.

The proposed amendment seeking to provide powers of Police Officers to RPF personnel is also violative of the provisions of the Indian Police Act, 1861.

I, therefore, request you to issue suitable instructions to the Ministry of Railways not to proceed with the proposed amendment to the Railway Protection Act, 1957."

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** urges the Hon'ble Prime Minister **Dr. Manmohan Singh** to focus special attention on the vital issues faced by the Tamil Nadu Government

The Memorandum on :

- **Mullai Periyar Dam ISSUE**
- **National Food Security Bill, 2011**
- **Protection of the Traditional fishing Rights of Indian fishermen in the Palk Bay and ensuring their safety and security**
- **A Special financial package of assistance to Tamil Nadu to overcome the present financial crisis**
- **Settlement of pending compensation of Revenue loss on account of phasing out of CST**
- **A special package of assistance for the financial revival of power utilities**

was presented to **Dr. Manmohan Singh,** the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 25.12.2011

1. MULLAI PERIYAR DAM ISSUE

The Supreme Court of India by its order dated 27.2.2006 permitted the Government of Tamil Nadu to raise the water level of the Mullai Periyar Dam to 142 feet initially. The Supreme Court of India also concluded that the dam is safe.

The Government of Kerala, in order to nullify the Supreme Court order, amended its Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003, on 18.3.2006. This Amended Act has fixed the FRL of the Mullai Periyar Dam as 136 ft. The Government of Tamil Nadu has challenged the constitutional validity of the Amended Act, 2006, of Kerala which is pending in the Supreme Court. An Empowered Committee was constituted by the Supreme Court to look into the various issues including the safety aspect of the dam and is expected to submit its report by February, 2012. However, the Government of Kerala, due to its own compulsions, carried on a propaganda to create panic among its people about the safety of the Mullai Periyar Dam and is declaring its determination to construct a new dam. A resolution was passed by the Government of Kerala in the Legislative Assembly on 9.12.2011 for lowering the water

level to 120 ft., in addition to the demand for construction of a new dam and decommissioning the Mullai Periyar Dam. Further, the Government of Kerala recently claimed that 22 tremors had occurred in the last four months at the dam site, but, according to the Indian Meteorological Department, there had been only four mild tremors in the last four months, that too, far away from the vicinity of the Mullai Periyar Dam site which did not have any impact on the dam. There is actually no possibility of the Mullai Periyar Dam breaching due to flood waters and collapsing since all eventualities have been factored in during the strengthening of the dam from the years 1980 to 1994. The Kallanai in Tamil Nadu which is 1900 years old, the Godavari and Krishna Barrages which are older than the Mullai Periyar Dam are still safe and no questions are being raised about their safety.

Because of the calculated fear mongering by the Government of Kerala, Tamil Nadu properties were attacked and destroyed at the dam site and therefore, the Government of Tamil Nadu had requested the deployment of the Central Industrial Security Force to safeguard the Mullai Periyar Dam and its appurtenant structures owned by the Government of Tamil Nadu in the leased area. The incidents and the remedial measures required were clearly brought out in my letters dated 23.11.2011, 29.11.2011 and 4.12.2011 seeking your personal intervention for advising the Government of Kerala appropriately and deploying the Central Industrial Security Force. Further, the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 15.12.2011, had unanimously resolved that the Government of Kerala should honour the Supreme Court order for raising the water level to 142 ft.; that the Government of Kerala should make appropriate amendments to its “Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation (Amendment) Act, 2006”; that the Government of Kerala should not obstruct Tamil Nadu from carrying out the remaining long term strengthening works so as to raise the water level of the dam to 152 ft. and conveyed the deep anguish of the people of Tamil Nadu over the resolution of the Government of Kerala passed in its Assembly to lower the water level to 120 ft.

The Government of Tamil Nadu would like to bring to the notice of the Hon’ble Prime Minister that despite the fact that there have been encroachments in the leased area as early as in 1979, no action had been taken by the Government of Kerala even on the request of the Government of Tamil Nadu to remove all the encroachments in the leased area.

Further, the Government of Tamil Nadu is shocked to note that the National Disaster Management Authority functioning under the Chairmanship of the Hon’ble Prime Minister

has on 12.12.2011 unilaterally constituted a Team of Experts to prepare a Contingency Response Plan for the Mullai Periyar Dam and downstream areas with a view to mainly developing the submergence / inundation models for various possible scenarios like earthquakes, floods and / or combination thereof. This is nothing but succumbing to the subterfuge of the Government of Kerala in order to present a fait accompli to the Supreme Court of India and the Empowered Committee constituted by it, when the whole matter is sub-judice. Therefore, the formation of the Team of Experts constituted by the National Disaster Management Authority is not warranted at this stage. The Government of Tamil Nadu has already requested the Hon'ble Prime Minister to order the withdrawal of the office Memorandum of the National Disaster Management Authority constituting the Team of Experts forthwith.

In these circumstances, the Government of Tamil Nadu requests the intervention of the Hon'ble Prime Minister on the following:-

(i) To advise the Government of Kerala to honour the order of the Supreme Court dated 27.2.2006 for raising the water level initially from 136 ft. to 142 ft. and to make appropriate amendments to its Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation (Amendment) Act, 2006

(ii) To advise the Government of Kerala not to venture upon the construction of a new dam, since the retrofitted Mullai Periyar Dam is safe and functioning well;

(iii) To advise the Government of Kerala not to obstruct but to co-operate with the Government of Tamil Nadu in carrying out the remaining strengthening works suggested by the Central Water Commission and also the routine maintenance works;

(iv) To advise the Government of Kerala to remove all the encroachments that have come up in the leased area;

(v) To deploy the Central Industrial Security Force to safeguard the Mullai Periyar Dam and its appurtenant structures in the leased area; and

(vi) To order the National Disaster Management Authority to withdraw the notification of the Team of Experts constituted for formulating a Contingency Response Plan for the Mullai Periyar Dam.

"The Government of Tamil Nadu has ordered the supply of rice free of cost to all ration card holders under the Universal Public Distribution System. This has been well received by the public. Apart from rice, wheat and sugar, special PDS commodities like Toor dhall, Urid dhall, fortified Palmolein and fortified Atta are also supplied to the public at heavily subsidized prices"

2. **NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY BILL, 2011**

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been successfully implementing the Universal Public Distribution System for the past several decades. Through this Universal Public Distribution System, the Government has been able to address the issue of providing food security for all without exception. In addition, the Government of Tamil Nadu has ordered the supply of rice free of cost to all ration card holders under the Universal Public Distribution System. This has been well received by the public. Apart from rice, wheat and sugar, special PDS commodities like Toor dhall, Urid dhall, fortified Palmolein and fortified Atta are also supplied to the public at heavily subsidized prices. Another unique feature of the Universal Public Distribution System is that no private individuals are permitted to run fair price shops. Only Co-operative Societies and the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, apart from a few Women Self Help Groups, are permitted to run the 32,977 fair price shops. The annual food subsidy cost for the State is Rs.5000 crores. There is a strong administrative monitoring, vigilance and grievance redressal mechanism operating in the State in respect of PDS.

In contrast, the Central Bill on Food Security is replete with confusion and inaccuracy. For instance, the proposed classification of target groups into Priority House Holds(PHH) and

General House Holds(GHH) for the purpose of delivery of food entitlements will surely invite sharp criticism and furious opposition from everybody concerned. The very basis of such classification is unscientific and unacceptable. Similarly, no reason has been adduced for restricting the coverage under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) to 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population under the Central Bill. Like the BPL norms proposed by the Union Planning Commission, the categorization of households and arbitrary restriction of coverage as contained in the Central Bill will lead to controversy and make a mockery of providing food security to all. The most significant point is that forced implementation of TPDS as contemplated under the Central Bill will entail an additional financial burden of about Rs.1800 crores per annum with no statutory commitment forthcoming from the Government of India.

I would like to request you to kindly ensure that the supply of food grains to Tamil Nadu continues at the existing level of allocation of rice and to also follow the same pattern besides restoring the monthly allotment of kerosene. In a federal structure where the States are in close and direct contact with the people, the choice of designing and implementing popular welfare schemes is best left to the States.

"In a federal structure where the States are in close and direct contact with the people, the choice of designing and implementing popular welfare schemes is best left to the States"

The Government of Tamil Nadu may, therefore, be exempted from the purview of the proposed National Food Security Bill.

3. PROTECTION OF THE TRADITIONAL FISHING RIGHTS OF INDIAN FISHERMEN IN THE PALK BAY AND ENSURING THEIR SAFETY AND SECURITY

In my letters dated 7.6.2011, 21.6.2011, 10.10.2011, 7.11.2011, 16.11.2011 and 26.11.2011, your kind attention was drawn to various incidents of apprehension, as well as attacks / harassment of the fishermen of Tamil Nadu by the Sri Lankan Navy, which has caused great unrest amongst the Fishermen Community of Tamil Nadu. There have been nearly 30 incidents of attack, harassment and apprehension by Sri Lankan Navy/miscreants against the fishermen of Tamil Nadu since this Government took charge in May, 2011. I have also requested that the attacks on our fishermen

"All efforts must be taken to protect the traditional fishing rights of Tamil Nadu fishermen in the Palk Bay area and to ensure their safety and security"

may be treated as a National issue since such attacks should be construed as attacks on citizens of India, i.e., attacks against India itself. During the forthcoming talks with Sri Lanka, which are proposed to be held in January, 2012, the Government of India is requested to strongly take up the issue of attacks against and apprehension of Tamil Nadu fishermen with the Government of Sri Lanka. All efforts must be taken to protect the traditional fishing rights of Tamil Nadu fishermen in the Palk Bay area and to ensure their safety and security.

Special Package of Conversion of bottom trawlers into Deep Sea Tuna Long Liners

In the memorandum submitted to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 14.6.2011, I had requested for a Special Package for conversion of bottom trawlers into deep sea tuna Long Liners suitable for deep sea fishing as this would reduce the trawling fishing pressure in the disputed waters of the Palk Bay area. The Government of India was also requested to enhance the subsidy given by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) for modification of existing fishing vessels to tuna long liners from the existing 50% to 90% as a special incentive for conversion of boats in the Palk Bay area (i.e., Ramanathapuram, Thanjavur, Pudukottai and Nagapattinam Districts).

TheGovernment of India, in its letter No. F. No. 12014/4/ 2004-Fy (T-1) dated 2.8.2011, forwarded the proposal of Tamil Nadu to the Chairman, MPEDA, with a request to consider the proposal for an appropriate decision. However, no final decision has been taken in this regard as yet by the MPEDA or the Government of India. The Government of India is requested to sanction this immediately.

A special package of Rs.10 crore every year for the State for the dredging of fishing harbours and bar mouths.

The Government of Tamil Nadu had requested for an assistance of Rs.10 crore every year to take up dredging of fishing harbours and bar mouths each year. However, no reply has been received in this regard from the Government of India.

4. A SPECIAL FINANCIAL PACKAGE OF ASSISTANCE TO TAMIL NADU TO OVERCOME THE PRESENT FINANCIAL CRISIS

We have inherited a fragile financial system with a huge unsustainable revenue deficit of

over Rs.3,000 crores and an enormous debt burden of over Rs.1 lakh crores. Thus, the State is facing severe financial strain even after taking drastic measures by the present Government such as improving the State resources by the upward revision of VAT rates and State excise duty. The State is unable to come out from the debt trap, hampering the development works severely in the State.

The Government of India may consider providing additional financial support under specific programmes like Backward Regions Grant (BRG) or any other developmental schemes meant for infrastructure development, similar to the special package of assistance extended to the West Bengal Government recently by the Government of India.

The request for sanction of Debt Relief pertaining to reduction of interest rates on loans sanctioned from the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF) of the Government of India and write-off of outstanding loans due to various Central Ministries/Departments other than the Ministry of Finance is still pending with the Government of India. This must be implemented with effect from 1.4.2010 as recommended by the 13th Finance Commission. The Government of Tamil Nadu is entitled to Interest Relief on NSSF loans to an extent of Rs.228 crores and Debt waiver relief of Rs.212 crores. The Government of India is requested to issue necessary orders in this regard at the earliest.

"The Government of Tamil Nadu is entitled to Interest Relief on NSSF loans to an extent of Rs.228 crores and Debt waiver relief of Rs.212 crores"

5. SETTLEMENT OF PENDING COMPENSATION OF REVENUE LOSS ON ACCOUNT OF PHASING OUT OF CST

Consequent to the reduction of CST from 4% to 3% with effect from 1.4.2001 and from 3% to 2% with effect from 1.6.2008, the Government of India agreed to compensate the revenue loss on account of the above reduction to the State Governments. The total CST loss compensation claimed by Tamil Nadu for the years 2007-2008 to 2010-2011, was Rs.6,497.62 crores. But, the Government of India released only Rs.2,636.50 crores leaving a balance of Rs.3,861.82 crores.

The pending claims are mainly due to the difference in the methodology adopted in working out the growth rate and also on the issue of double claims like revenue on tobacco and abolition of Form 'D'. Though the Government of India conducted a joint Group Of Officers meeting on 21.9.2010 and 15.10.2010, the issue is yet to be resolved, thereby

"Tamil Nadu has sent a proposal for establishment of a transmission system for evacuating the wind power of the existing 6548 MW and the proposed 3900 MW of wind generation at a cost of Rs.4,169 crores in two phases"

depriving the State of this claim. The Government of India is requested to take a quick decision on these pending issues and decide on the amount to be released to the State at the earliest.

6. A SPECIAL PACKAGE OF ASSISTANCE FOR THE FINANCIAL REVIVAL OF POWER UTILITIES

The Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited (TANGEDCO) is on the brink of financial collapse due to a huge accumulated loss of over Rs.40,000 crores and an unmanageable debt amounting to more than Rs.50,000 crores. The Government of Tamil Nadu has already sought a special financial relief package from the Government of India to save the power utilities from collapse.

a) Grant-in-Aid of Rs.455.16 crores for grid connected renewable energy

TANGEDCO has achieved a capacity addition of 997.4 MW wind energy during 2010-2011. The 13th Finance Commission has recommended an Aid of Rs.455.16 crores to Tamil Nadu as incentive for the grid connected renewable energy. The incentive grant of Rs.455.16 crores may be released immediately.

b) Additional allocation of 1000 MW from the Central Pool

Tamil Nadu is facing an acute shortage of power on account of mismatch in the demand and supply. About 1500 MW shortage is met by scheduled load shedding.

The planned capacity addition from Central Generating Stations such as NLC Stage-II Expansion (500 MW), Kudankulam Atomic Power Station (2000 MW) is getting delayed. As a result, the Government of Tamil Nadu requested an additional allocation of 1000 MW immediately.

c) Special Financial Assistance under Clean Energy Fund for wind energy development

In order to fully harness green power from wind energy generators, Tamil Nadu has to create infrastructural facilities for evacuating and transmitting wind power. A huge investment is required for this purpose. Tamil Nadu has sent a proposal for establishment of a

transmission system for evacuating the wind power of the existing 6548 MW and the proposed 3900 MW of wind generation at a cost of Rs.4,169 crores in two phases. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has recommended the disbursement of Rs.2,752.40 crores under Phase-I. The above amount may be released early.

d) Reduction of T&D losses and measures for supply side management

It is proposed to undertake feeders segregation of about 2870 feeders in the State at an estimated cost of Rs.15,000 crores along with a high voltage distribution system (HVDS) to reduce the ratio of HT and LT line which is presently 4:1. The Power Finance Corporation / the Rural Electrification Corporation is requested to extend financial assistance for this T&D scheme for bringing the line loss below 15%.

e) Additional allocation of power from the capacity addition under joint sectors

TNEB has entered into a joint venture agreement for the execution of 3x500 MW with the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and also 2x500 MW with NLC. TNEB has been allotted 69.4% share of power from the NTPC-Tamil Nadu Energy Company Limited (NTECL) joint venture and 38.7% from the NLC-Tamil Nadu Power Limited (NTPL) joint venture. 75% of the power may be allotted to Tamil Nadu from both these joint venture projects.

f) Long term coal linkage for the new projects

TNEB has proposed to establish the following three thermal power projects in the 12th Plan period:

i) Ennore Annexe – 1x600 MW at Ennore Thermal Power Station (ETPS) as an expansion project.

ii) Udangudi Project of 2x800 MW coal based supercritical thermal power plant.

iii) Ennore SEZ project of 2x800 MW coal based supercritical thermal power plant in Ash dyke of North Chennai Thermal Power Station (NCTPS), Kattupalli at Vayalur village in Thiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu.

Necessary allocations for coal linkage for the above three projects are pending with the Ministry of Coal. The above projects could not get environmental clearance for want of long term coal linkage. Therefore the grant of coal linkage may be considered on priority basis in order to complete these projects in time.

J JAYALALITHAA

Chief Minister

Tamil Nadu

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INDIA SHOULD SUPPORT THE U.S. BACKED RESOLUTION AND STRONGLY CONDEMN THE SRI LANKAN GOVERNMENT WHEN THE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION COMES UP FOR VOTING

Text of the D.O. letter addressed
to **Dr. Manmohan Singh,** the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 29.02.2012.

"I would like to recall the Memorandum I presented to you on 14.06.2011 and my D.O. Letter dated 25.06.2011 wherein I had drawn your attention to the resolution passed in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 08.06.2011, urging the Government of India to take up the issue of war crimes with the UN and to declare those found guilty of war crimes against Sri Lankan Tamils as war criminals, and to initiate action by working with other nations for imposition of an economic embargo on the Sri Lankan Government until the Sri Lankan Tamils living in camps are resettled and rehabilitated and are allowed to live with dignity, self respect and equal constitutional rights on par with the Sinhalese.

While I was under the impression that the Government of India was pursuing action positively on the resolution passed by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, certain reports in the media have meanwhile appeared wherein a Sri Lankan spokesperson has reportedly expressed confidence with regard to India's support of the Sri Lankan stand when the U.S. backed resolution on accountability issues during the final stages of the civil war in the island nation involving human rights violation comes up for voting in the United Nation Human Rights Council in Geneva, during March, 2012.

I write this letter to you to reiterate our stand expressed in the Memorandum as well as in the D.O. Letter referred to above, and to insist that India should support the U.S. backed resolution and strongly condemn the Sri Lankan Government when the same is brought forward in the council."

Chief Minister launches a Comprehensive Medical Insurance Scheme

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa launched a new health insurance scheme titled "Chief Minister's Comprehensive Medical Insurance Scheme" at Secretariat, Chennai on 11.1.2012.

It was announced in the address of His Excellency the Governor, in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly that: "A new Public Health Insurance Scheme will be launched by this Government shortly to achieve the objective of universal health care by terminating the existing health insurance scheme, as it is not comprehensive and effective in fulfilling public aspirations". In order to implement the poll promises made in the election manifesto and in continuance to the announcement made in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has inaugurated the new medical insurance scheme which will cater to the need of an infant to the elders.

In the new scheme launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, a family will get Rs.1 lakh for a period of four years totaling Rs.4 lakh; Rs.1.50 lakh for selected diseases; 1.34 crore families would benefit by this scheme; treatment under 1016 categories including treatment for infants; continued treatment under 113 categories and 23 diagnostic methods.

A minimum of 6 hospitals will be recognized in each district to provide treatment under this scheme. Additional number of hospitals will be identified in cities like Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai. In total, not less than 250 hospitals will be recognized under this scheme.

All the recognized hospitals have to organize health camps to screen for diseases. These health camps will help to identify health related problems among the poor and for their treatment under this scheme.

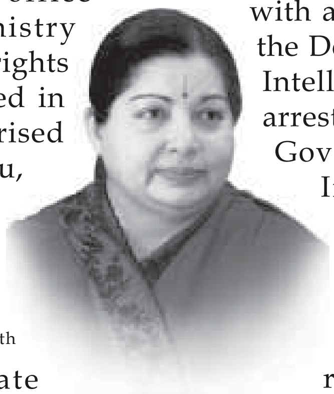
The Government of Tamil Nadu has identified the United India Insurance Company Ltd, a public sector enterprise, to implement this scheme. A sum of Rs.750 crore will be spent annually for this scheme.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed Medical Insurance Identity cards to seven beneficiaries and handed over approval letter for treatment to seven beneficiaries. ●

THE STATES AND THE CENTRE SHOULD WORK TOGETHER TO ELIMINATE THE SCOURGE OF TERRORISM

Text of the D.O. letter addressed to **Dr. Manmohan Singh,** the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 5.3.2012.

"Please recall my letters addressed to you on 17.2.2012 and 20.2.2012 in which I had recorded my strong objections to the constitution of the National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) without any process of consultation with the States. I had also, through these letters, drawn your attention to certain provisions in the office memorandum of the Home Ministry which trample upon the legitimate rights of the State Governments enshrined in the Constitution. I am now surprised that, instead of a response from you, a communication has been sent by the Home Ministry to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu requesting him to attend an official meeting on 12th March, 2012, along with the State Home Secretary and the Director General of Police for discussing the provisions relating to the office memorandum on the NCTC.



The Constitution of the NCTC is an attack on the federal structure of the Constitutional framework. Further, when contemplating a Counter Terrorism Centre at the National level, a process of consultation through a formal communication should have been initiated with the States, particularly when the State Governments and the Union Home Ministry have to work together in a co-ordinated fashion to eliminate the scourge of terrorism.

The proposed National Counter Terrorism Centre will be a non-starter without the involvement of the State Governments. All State Governments are concerned about the proper maintenance of public peace and order and hence pay maximum attention to it. I have enunciated in detail the steps that have been taken by me to counter terrorism and suggested the way forward. The availability and transmission of advance intelligence, remaining in a state of alertness and modernization of equipment, coupled with advanced training, are the key elements of any anti-terrorism establishment. Tinkering with a few provisions such as renaming the Designated Authority or arming the Intelligence Bureau with the power of arrest and seizure, or dictating to State Governments about the formation of Inter-State Intelligence Support Teams will hardly help in this fight against terrorism.

Terrorism is an evil monster that should be eradicated with ruthless aggression. The States and the Centre should work together in this endeavour. The fight against terrorism is a national priority. A meeting chaired by the Union Home Secretary will not serve the purpose, since larger issues concerning the Constitution are involved and particularly when many Chief Ministers have expressed their concerns to you directly. I have, however, instructed the Chief Secretary, the Home Secretary and the Director General of Police of Tamil Nadu to attend the Home Ministry's meeting scheduled for the 12th March, 2012.

I request you to convene a meeting with the Chief Ministers of all the States at your level after circulating a background paper that will speak about the roles of the Centre and the States and offer insights as to how they can work together in this National effort."

MY GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING HIGH CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE STATE AS IT IS THE BASIS OF ALL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Tamil Nadu Industrial Guidance & Export Promotion Bureau (Guidance Bureau) and Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** for setting up a Business Support Centre at Chennai to Support Japanese Companies planning to invest in the State of Tamil Nadu, at Secretariat, Chennai on 10.1.2012

Japan is the sixth largest foreign investor in India. About 286 Japanese Companies including major Companies like Toshiba, Nissan, Mitsubishi, Komatsu, and Asahi Glass have set up their industrial units in Tamil Nadu. 35% of Japanese industries in India are located in Tamil Nadu.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Selvi J Jayalalithaa has already constituted a Working Group consisting of Officials from Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Government of Japan and senior officials from the Government of Tamil Nadu for the mutual benefit of Japan and Tamil Nadu in industrial investment and infrastructure development. Now, accepting the request of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Govt. of Japan, Hon'ble Chief Minister has constituted a Joint Working Committee to discuss a broad range

of issues such as social developmental issues, cultural and educational exchange, improvement of investment climate and business environment including infrastructure etc., in a comprehensive manner to strengthen the overall relationship.

During the course of the meeting, Selvi J Jayalalithaa, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu made a brief speech, which is as follows:-

"I extend a warm welcome to you all.

It gives me immense pleasure to be present here today to witness the important event of the signing of Memoranda of Understanding between JETRO and Ascendas on the one side and the Guidance Bureau of the Government of Tamil Nadu on the other.

As you are all aware, the people of Tamil Nadu have a tradition of adopting and accommodating anything that is new and positive, be it in the field of arts, literature, culture and science and technology. It is common knowledge that people from this part of the country had trading relations, even centuries ago, with China, Rome and many South East Nations.

I understand that Cultural exchanges between India and Japan began as early as in the 6th century with the introduction of Buddhism to Japan from India. Linguistic Scholars who studied Japanese and Tamil have found that there are some similarities between the two languages. Researchers claim that many Tamil and Japanese words bear phonetic and semantic resemblances. According to Professor Tsutomu Kambe of Japan, "There are more than 500 Tamil words in the Japanese language".

With such rich traditional linkages behind us, it is but natural that we strive to build on it to take our economic, cultural and social relations to the next higher level. In this connection, I consider today's signing of the MoU with JETRO in the presence of the Japanese Minister for Economy and Trade very significant and indicative of the commencement of a new epoch.

Japan, being the sixth largest investor in India, looks upon Tamil Nadu as one of its most favoured States for investment. We have some of the major Japanese business houses in Tamil Nadu like Toshiba, Nissan, Mitsubishi, Komatsu, and Asahi Glass apart from 286 small and medium Japanese industrial units. I am glad to note that 35% of Japanese industries in India are located in our State.

The Government of Tamil Nadu and Japanese institutions have a strong relationship endorsed by MoUs signed by the Guidance Bureau, the Single Window Agency of the Government, with the Mizuho Bank, Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO), Government of Hiroshima and Japan Chamber of Commerce & Industry (JCCI) for investment and trade promotion related facilitations.

I assure you that my Government will extend its full support to the existing and new Japanese units. We welcome businessmen from Japan with a

warm heart and a kind and positive approach. Proactive steps are being taken by us towards making Tamil Nadu regain its top position in the country. A New Industrial Policy will shortly be announced by this Government, which will not only be investor friendly but also be aiming at balanced and sustainable growth.

During my meeting with the Japanese Ambassador to India, Mr. Saiki at Chennai on 8th September, 2011, it was suggested that a new framework of dialogue should be evolved to cover a broad range of issues such as social developmental issues, cultural and educational exchanges, improvement of investment climate and business environment including infrastructure etc. in a comprehensive manner, to strengthen the overall relationship between Tamil Nadu and Japan. I am happy to announce that I have accepted this suggestion and recently ordered the constitution of a Joint Working Committee (JWC) for this purpose. The Working Group already constituted will report the outcome of its discussions to the JWC and the decisions taken by the JWC will be followed by the Working Group.

My Government is committed to providing high class infrastructure in the State as it is the basis of all growth and development. Particular emphasis will be laid on improving the quality of roads and bridges. Recently, I have sanctioned 1900 crore rupees under the Comprehensive Road Infrastructure Development Programme of the State's Highways Department. Further, to address the specific need of Japanese Industries for improving the infrastructure around Ennore port, I am glad to inform you that the State Highways Department is undertaking a study to form a separate road called the Northern Port Access Road. The Ennore Port authorities are also taking steps to complete the dredging work expeditiously.

Developing the infrastructure and improving the connectivity between Chennai and Bengaluru are high on the agenda of both the State and Central Governments. A Comprehensive Integrated Master Plan will soon be drafted to work on it.

With all these positive steps that we have taken and in an atmosphere of trust and co-operation, I am confident that the people of Tamil Nadu and Japan will prosper and flourish. It is my desire that the relationship and understanding should extend from the field of economy to the fields of art, culture, social and educational exchanges also.

To end, I would like to recall the words of William James, 'The greatest discovery of our generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering their attitudes of mind. As you think, so shall you be.'

Thank you."

On behalf of the Japanese delegation, Mr. Yukio Edano, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry, Government of Japan informed the Hon'ble Chief Minister that Japanese companies consider Tamil Nadu to be an ideal destination for investments and requested the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to facilitate Japanese investments in Tamil Nadu. He requested that the access roads to Ennore

Port may be improved. He also offered the assistance of the Japanese Government for undertaking a comprehensive study on the infrastructural requirements of the Chennai – Bengaluru industrial corridor. Hon'ble Chief Minister replied that as already pointed out by her, the State Highways Department has already commissioned a feasibility study on the Northern Port Access Road; and improving the Chennai – Bengaluru corridor is high on the agenda of the State Government.

During this occasion, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Tamil Nadu Industrial Guidance & Export Promotion Bureau (Guidance Bureau) and Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) for setting up a Business Support Center at Chennai to support Japanese companies planning to invest in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Dr. N. Sundaradevan, I.A.S., Chairman, Guidance Bureau signed the MoU on behalf of Guidance Bureau. Mr. Shinya Fujii, Director General, JETRO signed the MoU on behalf of JETRO.

M/s. Ascendas of Singapore in association with Japanese Group of Companies are taking steps to set up an Integrated Industrial Township in Old Mahabalipuram Road near Chennai in an area of about 1500 Acres with an investment of about Rs.3,500 crores within a period of 5 years. This Township will have various facilities like Manufacturing Zone, Commercial, Residential, Institutional and Social Infrastructure facilities. The Manufacturing Zone to be established within this Industrial Township is likely to attract an investment of about Rs.15,000 crores and has the potential for providing employment for 40,000 persons. Government's support and co-operation is required for this Industrial Township Project. For this purpose, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Guidance Bureau, Ascendas and Japanese Group of Companies. Dr. N. Sundaradevan, I.A.S., Chairman, Guidance Bureau signed the MoU on behalf of Guidance Bureau. Miss. Chong Siak Ching, Chief Executive Officer & President, Ascendas Land International Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Mitsuhiro Nagahama, Deputy President, Mizuho Corporate Bank, Mr. Yoshihiro Shigehisa, Chairman, Emeritus of JGC Group have signed the MoU on behalf of Ascendas and Japanese Group of Companies in the presence of Selvi J Jayalalithaa, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

During this event, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Principal Secretary to Government, Industries Department and other senior officials of Government of Tamil Nadu were present. On behalf of Japan and Singapore, senior officials from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Govt. of Japan, Consul General of Japan at Chennai, Chairman, JETRO and the High Commissioner of Singapore to India have participated.

INDIA SHOULD SUPPORT THE UNITED STATES BACKED RESOLUTION IN THE UNITED NATION HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL AND STRONGLY CONDEMN THE SRI LANKAN GOVERNMENT

Text of the D.O. letter addressed to **Dr. Manmohan Singh,** the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 6.3.2012

"This is in continuation of my D.O. Letter to you written on 29.2.2012 wherein I had recalled the memorandum I presented to you on 14.6.2011 and my D.O. Letter dated 25.6.2011, drawing your attention to the resolution passed by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, urging the Government of India to take up the issue of war crimes with the United Nations and to declare those found guilty of war crimes against Sri Lankan Tamils as war criminals, and to initiate action by working with other Nations for imposition of an economic embargo on the Sri Lankan Government until the Sri Lankan Tamils are resettled and rehabilitated and are allowed to live with dignity, self respect and equal constitutional rights on par with the Sinhalese.

I had insisted that India should support the United States backed resolution and strongly condemn the Sri Lankan Government.

While there has been no response to my letter, much to my dismay, certain reports have appeared in the media relating to the Government of India's stand on the United States backed resolution on accountability issues of the Sri Lankan civil war involving human rights violations to be moved for voting in the United Nation Human Rights Council in Geneva in March, 2012. The media reports mention that India is against the "Country Specific" resolutions and wants to take up discussions only under Universal Periodic Review as a routine matter. This means direct support to the Sri Lankan Government, which is most unfortunate and untenable.

I, therefore, reiterate my earlier requests and insist that India should support the United States backed resolution in the United Nation Human Rights Council and strongly condemn the Sri Lankan Government.

I await a positive response from you, Sir."

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The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** handed over cash prizes totaling Rs.18.16 lakh to toppers in 10th and 12th standard public examinations belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified and Minority communities, students studied in schools run by the Tamil Nadu Forest department and students from deaf and dumb schools, at Secretariat, Chennai on 27.1.2012.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** inaugurated the Vandaloor Bridge constructed at a cost of Rs.27 crore through video conferencing at Secretariat, Chennai on 27.1.2012. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated 15 new bridges constructed in various places of Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs.46.78 crore through video conferencing.

I INVITE JAPANESE INVESTORS TO INVEST IN TAMIL NADU THE LAND OF ABUNDANT OPPORTUNITY!

Speech delivered by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu during the inaugural function of the Plant of Toshiba JSW Turbine and Generator Private Limited on 12.2.2012

I am delighted to participate in this inaugural function of the factory of Toshiba JSW Turbine and Generator Private Limited. At the outset, I congratulate the management of Toshiba and JSW for establishing this state-of-the-art facility for the manufacture of super critical turbines and generators in Tamil Nadu.

I understand that Toshiba-JSW have so far invested about 650 crore rupees and currently employ about 370 persons and that this plant will fabricate super critical turbines and generators with capacities up to 1000 MW. The use of super critical and ultra-super critical technologies in power plants will help reduce the coal requirement of electricity generation. India is currently facing a problem of inadequate domestic manufacturing capacity for super critical turbines and shortage of power equipment, thereby delaying the implementation of power projects. Given this context, the plant of Toshiba-JSW assumes considerable importance. The inauguration of this plant marks yet another milestone in the annals of economic co-operation between India and Japan.

India and Japan have historical and civilisational ties going back in time. Our relations have been marked by mutual goodwill, amity and respect. This legacy has remained unbroken till today, well into the modern era, which has seen our bonds strengthen, based on our shared values of freedom, democracy and the rule of law.

India and Japan have a long history of cultural exchanges, primarily as a result of Buddhism which spread indirectly from India to China and then to Japan. Cultural exchanges between India and Japan began early in the 6th century with the introduction of Buddhism to Japan from India. The Indian monk Bodhisena arrived in Japan in 736 AD to spread Buddhism and performed the eye-opening of the Great Buddha built in Todai-ji. Buddhism and the

intrinsically-linked Indian culture had a great impact on Japanese culture, which still continues to be pervasive.

In modern times, Japan has emerged as an important partner nation both in terms of trade and investment. Japan and India had agreed to establish "Japan-India Global Partnership in the 21st Century."

According to AT Kearney Foreign Direct Investment Confidence Index 2012, India is currently ranked the second most attractive Nation for FDI following China.

India offers a huge market potential for Japanese companies. Japanese companies expect India to emerge as the second most important trading partner after China in the next three years. According to a survey by the Japanese External Trade Organization (JETRO), the increasing interest in India is due to its large market and the macro-economic strength that has helped it minimize the impact of the financial crisis.

India and Japan have entered into a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (**CEPA**). This Agreement is the most comprehensive of all the agreements concluded by India in so far as it covers more than 90% of trade, a vast gamut of services, investment, IPR (Intellectual Property Rights), customs and other trade-related issues. With this, I am sure, Indo-Japanese economic relations will grow by leaps and bounds.

Within India, Tamil Nadu has been identified as one of the States with the most potential for Japanese investments. Recognizing the potential, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Government of Japan and Government of Tamil Nadu have signed a Bilateral Economic Co-operation Agreement to foster the economic relationship between Tamil Nadu and Japan.

Besides, the Japanese External Trade Organization (JETRO) has signed an economic Co-operation MoU with the Guidance Bureau of the Government of Tamil Nadu on 10th January, 2012.

Apart from JETRO, the Government of Hiroshima Prefecture as well as the Mizuho Bank have also signed such co-operation agreements with our Guidance Bureau. A few other prefecture Governments like Kanagawa and Aichi prefectures have also evinced interest in signing Co-operation agreements with Tamil Nadu. All these bear ample testimony to the importance given to promoting economic co-operation between Tamil Nadu and Japan.

Currently, Japan is ranked as the 5th largest investor in India with an FDI inflow of 7.18 billion US dollars during April 2000 to September 2011. Japanese FDI accounts for 4.8% of India's total FDI received during the afore-mentioned period. India and Japan signed the Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation in 1960 that facilitates FDI flows from Japan to India. In recent times, Tamil Nadu has emerged as a major recipient of Japanese FDI.

I understand that there are about 1422 Japanese companies having operational bases in India. Of these, 286 are located in Tamil Nadu. Today, Chennai has the largest number of Japanese company bases accounting for almost 20.11% of the total Japanese company bases operating in India. Also, Chennai is now home to about 700 Japanese expatriates.

At present, some large Japanese companies are considering substantial investments in Tamil Nadu. My Government will soon sign MoUs with these companies. I am glad that Japanese investors are increasingly looking at Tamil Nadu as an attractive investment destination.

Japanese companies have been evincing interest mainly in the Manufacturing Sector. Tamil Nadu is a leading State in India in this sector, chiefly because of the steadfast existence of the automobile and component industry. The auto sector accounts for about 60 per cent of Japanese foreign direct investment in Tamil Nadu. I am confident that Chennai will emerge as the world's largest auto cluster.

Tamil Nadu has a number of competitive advantages to offer to Japanese investors. While Japan has skilled labour scarcity, Tamil Nadu with its rich capital of human resource endowments, is capable of meeting the needs of the Japanese industry. Today, Tamil Nadu is the most "technically powerful knowledge State" in the country. Abundant availability of skilled manpower at relatively lower wage costs, coupled with harmonious and peaceful industrial relations, are some of the distinct advantages that Tamil Nadu offers, making the State the most preferred investment destination.

A favourable investment climate with relatively cost-effective and high quality infrastructure offer the ideal platform for foreign investors to establish their production base in Tamil Nadu. Site evaluation studies of Nokia, Nissan, Daimler, World Bank, Ford, Hyundai, Saint Gobain, Stanchart, Xansa, etc., have found Tamil Nadu to be the "destination of choice" for Japanese investors.

Apart from Manufacturing, Japanese companies are evincing interest in investing in infrastructure projects also. The Joint Steering Committee consisting of the Government of Tamil Nadu and METI, Japan, has identified a number of infrastructure projects for co-operation. These include: Promotion of new Industrial Parks and Japanese Industrial Townships, Logistics Parks, Chennai-Bengaluru Corridor of Excellence, Waste Water Treatment and Desalination, etc.

My Government is very keen to upscale bilateral co-operation between Tamil Nadu and Japan by implementing some of the afore-mentioned Infrastructure initiatives.

My Government is aware of the infrastructure problems, particularly, the connectivity bottlenecks to Ennore Port currently faced by Toshiba and Nissan. On this occasion, I wish to assure you that my Government is taking steps to solve these Port connectivity related issues expeditiously.

My Government considers Japan as a very important partner. There is enormous potential for co-operation between Tamil Nadu and Japan. My Government will extend its full support to attract more Japanese FDI both in manufacturing and infrastructure. I invite Japanese investors to invest in Tamil Nadu, the Land of abundant opportunity!

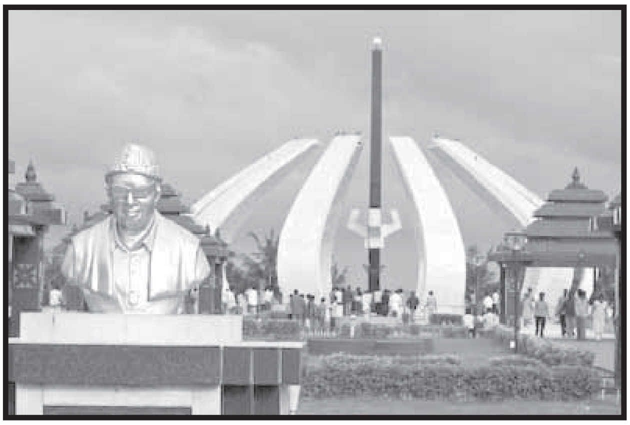
Once again, I congratulate Toshiba-JSW and wish the Company a very prosperous future.

Thank You.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** handed over appointment orders for re-employment to MBA post graduates who were Ex-district managers, TASMAC, to function in the same capacity, at Secretariat, Chennai on 20.12.2011.

The Hon'ble Minister for Information and Special Programmes Implementation Thiru.K.T.Rajenthrabhalaji inspected and viewed the screening of Video news Magazine produced by the Tamil Nadu Films Division on the cyclone 'Thane' relief work at Marina Beach, Chennai on 21.2.2012. Dr.M.Rajaram,IAS, Secretary to Government, Tamil Development, Religious Endowments and Information Department and Dr.P.Sankar,IAS the Director of Information and Public Relations were present during the occasion.

RENOVATION OF ANNA - MGR MEMORIALS AT A COST OF RS. 8.90 CRORE



The Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa has ordered to renovate the memorials of Perarignar Anna and Bharat Ratna Dr.MGR allocating a sum of Rs. 8.90 crore.

Statues and memorials have been established by the Government to honour the leaders who served for the welfare of the society, great freedom fighters and Tamil Savants who rendered yeomen service to Tamil language, so that the younger generation may be inspired.

Perarignar Anna Memorial and Bharat Ratna Dr.MGR Memorials in Marina, Chennai are visited by public in large numbers everyday. During the discussions held in Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly with regard to the demand for Information and Publicity for 2011-12 it was announced that Peraringnar Anna and Bharat Ratna Dr. MGR memorials would be renovated. In order to implement the announcement made in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has allocated a Sum of Rs. 8.90 Crore for the renovation of these memorials. As per the Hon'ble Chief Minister's orders the Perarignar Anna's Memorial would be renovated at a cost of Rs.1.20 crore. Bharat Ratna Dr. MGR's memorial would be renovated at a cost of Rs. 7.70 crore. Both the memorials would be refurbished at a total cost of Rs. 8.90 crore.

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The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** inaugurated the newly built Panchayat Union Offices constructed at a total cost of Rs.7.84 crore at Papanasam, Pattukottai, Avinasi, Palladam and Paapireddipatti through video conferencing at Secretariat, Chennai on 24.1.2012.

The Expert Committee constituted by the Government of Tamil Nadu to study the safety aspects of Koodamkulam Nuclear Power Project submitted its report to the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** at Secretariat, Chennai on 28.2.2012. Prof.M.R.Srinivasan former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and a member of the expert Committee handed over the report, to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

GIVE PRIOR INTIMATION ABOUT THE VISIT OF SRILANKAN DIGNITARIES

Text of the D.O. letter addressed to **Dr. Manmohan Singh**, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 7.3.2012

"As you are fully aware, the people of Tamil Nadu are greatly exercised over the conduct of the Sri Lankan Government while dealing with Sri Lankan Tamils and their rights. The local perception is that the Sri Lankan Government has completely failed in ensuring the local Tamils' right to live with dignity, self-respect and equal constitutional status on par with the Sinhalese.

Against this background, there have been instances in the recent past when Sri Lankan VIPs and other dignitaries come on private visits to Tamil Nadu without informing the State Government. During one such visit of Thirukumaran Nadesan, brother-in-law of the Sri Lankan President, to Rameswaram on 9.1.2012 and 10.1.2012, there was an attempt to attack him. As there was no information to this Government either from the Sri Lankan Government or from the Government of India, no precautionary security measures could be taken.

My attention was also drawn to the letter from the Deputy High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in Southern India addressed to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu and the letter from the Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs. The tone and tenor of the letter is unwarranted, unacceptable and totally unjustified.

The difficulties faced by this Government owing to the frequent visits of Sri Lankan Officials/Army Officers and VIPs without informing the State Government were already brought to the notice of the Ministries of External and Home Affairs by this Government's letters dated 16.9.2011 and 24.2.2012.

Hence, in view of the prevailing situation, it would be appropriate that the Government of Tamil Nadu is given prior intimation about the visits of Sri Lankan dignitaries and it would also be appreciated if the Government of India discourages such frequent visits to Tamil Nadu and allows such visits only after consulting the Government of Tamil Nadu in future."

✶

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** inaugurated projects, laid foundation to new projects and distributed welfare assistance at a total cost of Rs. 240 crores at a function held at Srirangam on 13.2.2012

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** laid the foundation stone for the renovation of "Namakkal Kavignar Maaligai" at Secretariat, Chennai on 3.3.2012. The Secretariat building would be renovated at a cost of Rs. 28 crore.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** inaugurated the Platinum Jubilee Tower of mettur dam to mark the completion of 75 years of the mettur dam through video conferencing at Secretariat, Chennai on 3.3.2012

3,000 New Buses

at a cost of Rs.434.75 crore

Public Transport System plays a vital role in the overall development of a State. In our State, the State Transport Undertakings play a vital role in this task by providing an economic and efficient system through a variety of services viz. Town, Mofussil, Ghat and Express services as well as Inter-State services to neighbouring States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Puducherry. Almost every habitation in the State is connected by bus services.

There are eight State Transport Undertakings functioning under the administrative control of Transport Department. These undertakings with a fleet strength of 21,169 provide one of the largest network of bus services in the country and carry 2.10 crore passengers every day. In Chennai Metropolitan Area (CMA) alone, over 55 lakh passengers travel in Metropolitan Transport Corporation Ltd., buses every day.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa has ordered for the purchase of 3,000 new buses at a cost of Rs.434.75 crore to replace the over aged buses that has been in use for 6 years or has been operated for more than 7 lakh kilometers and also to repair the old buses. A sum of Rs.75,36,40,000 has been allocated in the first phase to purchase 520 buses.

1,432 buses have been identified for repair for which a sum of Rs.97.58 crore has been allocated.

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ENSURE THE REQUIRED QUANTUM OF 100 MW OF POWER TRANSMISSION LINES IS RELEASED TO ENABLE TAMIL NADU TO RECEIVE POWER CONTRACTED BY TNEB

Text of the
D.O. letter addressed to
Dr. Manmohan Singh,
the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**,
the Hon'ble Chief Minister of
Tamil Nadu on 9.3.2012

"You are aware that Tamil Nadu is reeling under an acute power crisis.

Major Power projects to be executed by Central Public Sector Undertakings, namely, M/s BHEL, M/s NLC & M/s NTPC are inordinately delayed. To offset part of the deficit, Tamil Nadu is trying to procure power from various other States. Tamil Nadu has been fairly successful in finalizing contracts for a sizable quantum of power. However, the non-availability of a Transmission Corridor has deprived Tamil Nadu of receiving the contracted power.

To cite some examples, Tamil Nadu has contracted a capacity of 500 MW from Gujarat. Of this, only 203 MW could be transmitted to this State. The 727 MW of Night Power contracted from Dadri Power Station (Uttar Pradesh) of

Tamil Nadu has been fairly successful in finalizing contracts for a sizable quantum of power. However, the non-availability of a Transmission Corridor has deprived Tamil Nadu of receiving the contracted power.

M/s NTPC was also curtailed. Tamil Nadu has contracted to an extent of 1750 MW of power from outside Tamil Nadu for the month of March, 2012. However, the corridor availability has been released to the extent of 350 MW only by the Central Load Despatching authorities. This has caused indescribable anguish in Tamil Nadu.

The power deficit situation in Tamil Nadu has been aggravated by the prevailing corridor congestion. The problem of corridor congestion has also been represented to the Central authorities several times.

I request you to kindly intervene in the matter and ensure that the required quantum of 1000 MW of power transmission lines is released to enable Tamil Nadu to receive power contracted by the TNEB.

I had, in my Memorandum presented to you on 14.6.2011 in person, requested 1000 MW of additional power for the State for a period of one year only till the central power utilities which supply power to Tamil Nadu commence their production. Of this, only 100 MW was recently allotted. This inaction and non-responsiveness to our repeated requests during this unprecedented power crisis only shows callousness and indifference on the part of the Centre.

" I request you to kindly intervene in the matter and ensure that the required quantum of 1000 MW of power transmission lines is released to enable Tamil Nadu to receive power contracted by the TNEB. "

The amazing alacrity shown in superimposing fetters on the rights of the States may also be bestowed on concern for the essential needs of the States and attention to fulfilling them.

May I, therefore, once again request you to kindly intervene and ensure that the congestion in the corridor is eased to enable Tamil Nadu to avail of contract power?

I also request you to use your good offices for allotting 1000 MW to Tamil Nadu as earlier requested by me.

Rest assured Sir, of my continued goodwill and co-operation." ✶

The Ambassador of India to USA Tmt. Nirupama Rao called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** at Secretariat, Chennai on 20.12.2011

TAKE NECESSARY MEASURES TO ALLAY THE FEARS OF THE PEOPLE

Text of the D.O. letter addressed to
Dr. Manmohan Singh,
the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,**
the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
on 17.12.2011

I was amazed to see in the media that at a Joint Press Conference with the Russian President you had announced that the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project will be "operationalised in a couple of weeks".

May I recapitulate that following our Cabinet Resolution that further works are to be halted until the fears of the local people are allayed and after the presentation of a Memorandum to you by a Delegation led by the Finance Minister of Tamil Nadu, the Government of India constituted an Expert Committee to interact with the nominees of the local people to explain the position of the safety aspects?

The State Government is facilitating the interaction through local officials. The satisfaction of the people of the area is of paramount importance of my Government and the State of Tamil Nadu.

May I add that it is imperative that necessary measures to allay the fears of the people are undertaken before any precipitate action is embarked upon?"

Tamil Nadu Bio-diversity Conservation and Greening Project

Forests provide environmental stability, ecological security, food security and water security to the country and also provide livelihood security to the forest fringe people. Medicinal plants from forests provide health security to the millions of people depending upon traditional systems of medicine. Forests play an important role in bio-geochemical cycles particularly carbon cycle and hydrological cycle. Carbon sequestration potential of forest is very important for mitigation of climate change and hence has a direct bearing on the very survival of humanity.

Hence, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa is determined to provide a conducive environment for the welfare of the people. Tamil Nadu Afforestation Project Phase-II is being implemented with the financial support from Japanese International Co-operation Agency from 2005-2006 and will be completed by 2012-2013. The project aims to restore the forest cover through soil and moisture conservation works, afforestation, and by providing alternate employment to the people living in forest fringe villages.

In continuation of the above, the Tamil Nadu Forest Department would implement a Japan International Cooperation Agency assisted externally aided project named 'Tamil Nadu Bio-diversity Conservation and Greening Project' to strengthen biodiversity conservation as well as undertaking tree planting outside the forest areas to increase trees cover. The project will be implemented from 2011-2012 to 2018-2019 with an outlay of Rs.686.28 crore through creating of a Project Management Unit sanctioned by the Government under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary.

The problem of human wildlife conflicts is posing a

very severe threat to conservation of wildlife. Human wildlife conflict is a phenomenon which manifests as a result of a serious competition between the two for food, water, space or any other resource between wildlife and humans at the same place and time leading to overlap of their operational areas. Such conflicts result in causing severe damage, not only to the life and property of man, but will also cause an irrecoverable damage to the wildlife and its habitats.

Incidents of wild animals straying out of forest occur due to normal migration of animals, habitat fragmentation, habitat loss and degradation. When the strayed animals come across human habitations, human animal conflict arises. Such conflicts result in damage to crops, property, loss of livestock and injury / loss of human life.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered to take the following mitigation measures to resolve the problem of human animal conflict.

- The development of water resources in the forest areas.
- The development of tree fodder resources in the forest areas.
- Creation of physical barrier – solar power fencing and elephant proof trenches.
- Monitoring and anti-depredation drives.
- Awarding adequate and timely compensation to the affected families.

In the first phase, the scheme for mitigation of human-elephant conflict will be implemented in Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Erode, Dindigul and Tirunelveli forest circles at a total cost of Rs.5,19,16,000/-.

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The Office bearers of CII, Tamil Nadu made a presentation on
"CII - Tamil Nadu Vision 2025" to the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**
at Secretariat, Chennai on 23.2.2012.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** inaugurated the buildings constructed for Regional Transport Offices and driver's testing fields constructed at a cost of Rs.4,50,26,000/- through video conferencing at Secretariat, Chennai on 6.1.2012.

Celebration of Thiruvalluvar Thirunal and presentation of Government Awards

The Thiruvalluvar Thirunal (Thiruvalluvar Day) was celebrated on behalf of the Government at the Government Museum Hall, Egmore, Chennai on 16.1.2012. Government awards in the names of eminent leaders were handed over to awardees during the occasion.

Dr.M.Rajaram,I.A.S., Secretary, Tamil Development, Religious Endowments and Information Department welcomed the gathering. The function was presided by the Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Sports & Youth Welfare, Law, Courts and Prisons Thiru C.Ve.Shanmugam. The Hon'ble Minister for Information and Special Programmes Implementation Thiru K.T.Rajenthrabhalaji offered his felicitations. The Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Thiru O.Panneerselvam presented the awards, cash prize of Rs.1 lakh and a

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** handed over cash prize of Rs.1 lakh each to eminent sports persons at Secretariat, Chennai on 27.1.2012.

gold medal to the recipients of the Government Awards.

The Thiruvalluvar Award was presented to pulavar Se.Varadarasan; Thanthai Periyar Award to Dr.Tmt.Visalatchi Nedunchezhiyan; Annal Ambedkar Award to Prof.Dr.Su.Kaliyappan; Perarignar Anna Award to Thiru Era.Sezhiyan; Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Award to Thiru Thindivanam K.Ramamoorthy; Mahakavi Bharathiyar Award to Dr.Era.Prema; Pavendar Bharathidasan Award to Kavignar Ervadi Su.Radhakrishnan; Thamizhthendral Thiru.Vi.Ka. Award to Prof.Dr.Na.Jayaprakash and Muthamizh Kavalar Ki.Aa.Pe.Viswanatham Award to Prof. Dr.Era.Mohan. Tamil savants were presented with orders for enhanced financial assistance.

The Hon'ble Minister for Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Thiru A.Mohammedjan, the Director of Information and Public Relations Dr.P.Sankar,I.A.S., Tamil savants and public in large number participated in the function. The function was organized by the Tamil Development, Religious Endowments and Information department. The Director, Tamil Development Dr.Ka.Mu.Sekar proposed a vote of thanks.

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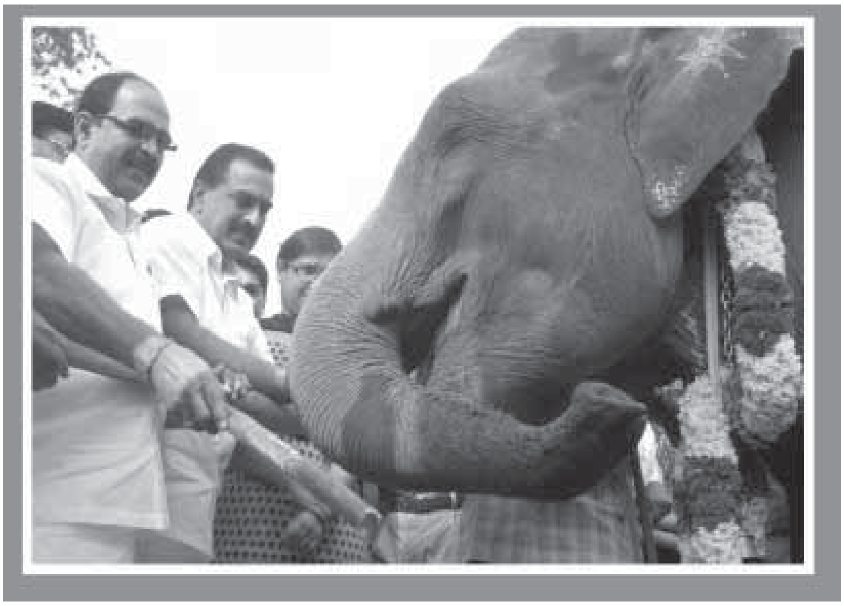
SPECIAL REJUVENATION CAMP FOR TEMPLE ELEPHANTS

Based on the fact that not only human beings, but also the other living beings do deserve mercy and kindness, **the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa** having kindness and affection to all animals has given instructions that the temple elephants should not be engaged continuously in work but should be given sufficient rest. Further, instructions have been given by the Hon'ble Chief Minister for their proper maintenance and for the supervision of their physical health and to provide necessary medical advice and treatment.

Hon'ble Chief Minister has taken special initiative in the year 2003 for conducting "Special Rejuvenation Camp" every year for all the elephants maintained by the temples, Mutts and by private individuals in Tamil Nadu, to maintain their health rendering rejuvenation and to

maintain their balanced physical and mental health. Accordingly, at Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, which possesses a conducive atmosphere having water resources, special rejuvenation camps for elephants were conducted effectively and the physical and mental health of the elephants were brought to a healthy stage. The entire expenditure for the camps was borne by the Government.



On the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Special Rejuvenation Camp for Temple Elephants was inaugurated at Theppakkadu, Mudumalai in the Nilgiris district on 14.12.2011. The Hon'ble Minister for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Thiru M.S.M.Anandan and the Hon'ble Minister for Forests Thiru K.T.Pachaimal inaugurated the Special Rejuvenation camp by lighting the traditional lamp and by offering special diet to the elephants. Thiru C.V.Sankar,I.A.S., Principal Secretary to Government, Environment and Forests department, Thiru J.Chandrakumar,I.A.S., Commissioner of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, Thiru Rakesh Vashisht,I.F.S., Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Tmt.Archana Patnaik,I.A.S., the district Collector of the Nilgiris were present during the occasion.

A 30 day Special Rejuvenation camp was held in the year 2003 for 55 elephants belonging to temples and private owners. The elephants were given measured diet, medication and rest before they were sent back to their places. Special Rejuvenation camps were also held for 65 elephants for 48 days in 2004 and 48 day camp for 63 elephants in 2005.

The Special Rejuvenation camp inaugurated on 14.12.2011 was held for 48 days. 37 elephants from 35 temples participated. Kumaran, the elephant from Thiruchendur Arulmigu Subramaniya Swamy Temple aged 9 years was the only male elephant. Other 36 were female elephants. The youngest was the 7 years old Akila of Srivilliputhur Arulmigu Nachiyar Thirukkoil and the oldest was the 61 years old Vellaiyammal of Punnainallur Arulmigu Mariamman Thirukkoil.

- The Hon'ble Chief Minister had given clear instructions not to force the resisting and sick elephants into the camp.

- 9 elephants found unfit for the camp were left in their places.

- Elephants were brought to the camp in well maintained good trucks accompanied by their mahouts and veterinary doctors.

- Proper rest and food were given enroute.

- The participating elephants were thoroughly checked by the veterinary doctors about their fitness to travel and obtained medical certificate before they were brought to the camp.

- Elephants were treated for worms and vaccinated for Anthrax before they were brought to the camp.

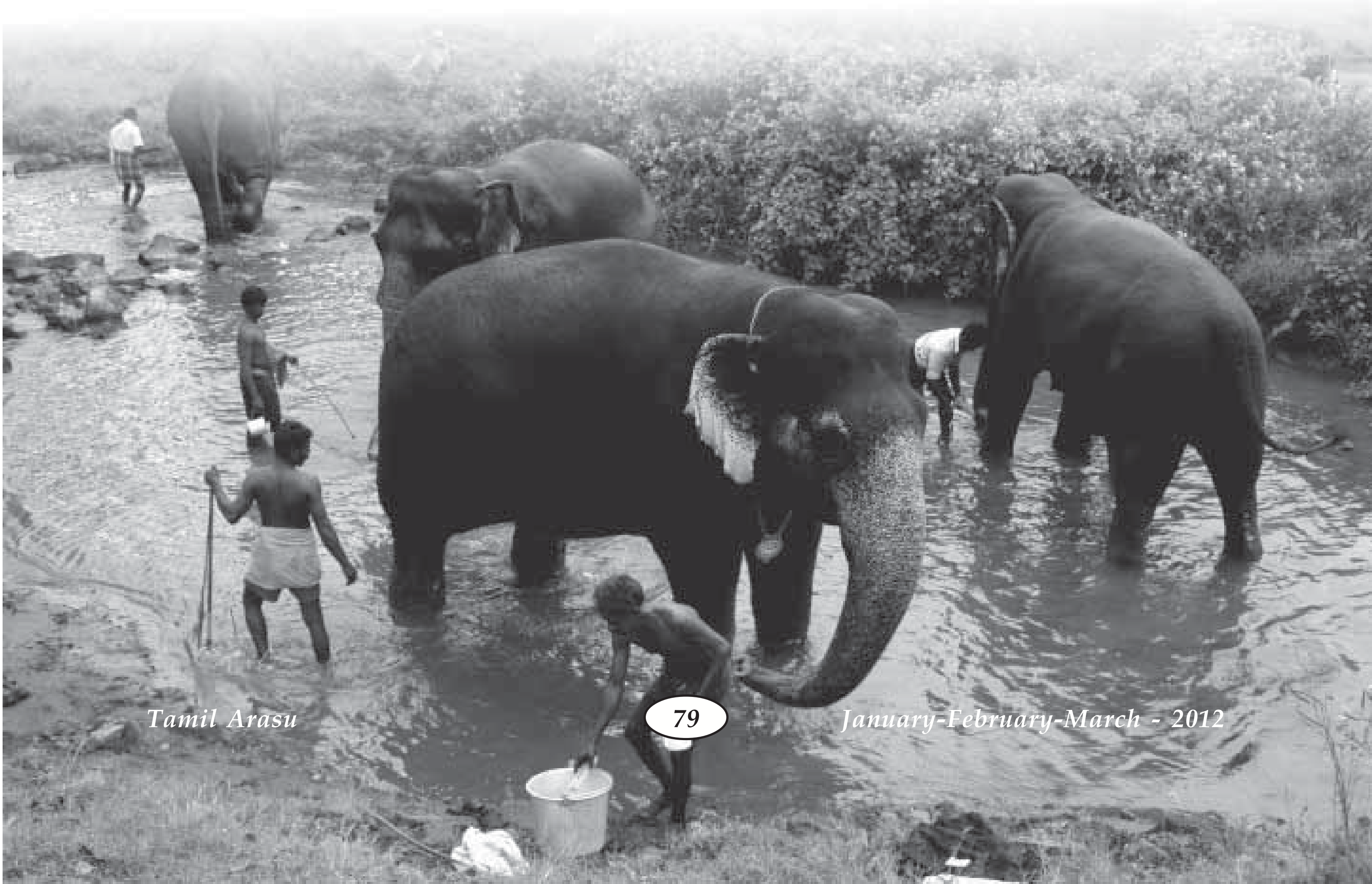
- They were weighed at Thorappalli before taken to the camp

- The camp site was disinfected before the elephants were allowed inside.

- The mahouts, their assistants and the officials were made to walk on the disinfected soil before entering the camp.

- The moment the elephants were let inside the camp, they flirted playfully with each other showing joy.

- The elephants on arrival were given green fodder.



- The Special Rejuvenation camp was held on an area of 10 acres in Theppakkadu with solar electric fence.

- The camp had a store hut for storing food, a dispensary, a separate place for preparing balanced diet and a separate area for green fodder.

- Living quarters, dining hall and recreating rooms were established for the mahouts and their assistants.

- Camp offices were established for Forest, veterinary, Fire and Rescue Services, Police and HR & CE departments.

- An Emergency area was identified within the camp site to provide emergency health care to elephants.

- The Special Rejuvenation Camp was held for 48 days.

- Dr.M.Rajaram,I.A.S., Secretary to Government, Tamil Development, Religious Endowments and Information Department inspected the camp on 17.12.2011.

- He inspected the camp site, tested the quality of food given to the mahouts and their assistants, inspected the preparation of balanced diet for the elephants and held discussions with officials and doctors. He also interacted with the mahouts and enquired about the benefit of the camp and the response of the elephants, etc.

- The secretary, while addressing the media said the mahouts have been instructed to take their elephants for walk to provide physical exercise every day, when they go back to their places. He said action would be taken to provide the same care given in the camp even after the camp and the seven elephants that were left out in the temples would be given the same treatment in their places.

Tamil Arasu

R.N.I. No.21446/70 Regn No. TN/ARD/48/12-14
& WPP No.TN/PMG (CCR) 518/12-14

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **SELVI J JAYALALITHAA** inaugurated the scheme of planting 64 lakh saplings in Tamil Nadu by planting a sapling of a banyan tree at Chennai Corporation Park, Rajaji Salai, opposite Secretariat on 23.2.2012.

Rs.30/-